MNV
MORALES
J-PO

FEAR ITSELF™

MATT FRACTION • STUART IMMONEN

MARVEL

FEAR ITSELF

WRITER
MATT FRACTION

PENCILER
STUART IMMONEN

INKER
WADE VON GRAWBADGER
WITH DEXTER VINES

COLORIST
LAURA MARTIN
WITH LARRY MOLINAR, MATT MILLA & JUSTIN PONSOR

LETTERER
CHRIS ELIOPOULOS

COVER ART
STEVE McNIVEN, MARK MORALES
& JUSTIN PONSOR

FEAR ITSELF: BOOK OF THE SKULL

WRITER
ED BRUBAKER

PENCILER
SCOT EATON

INKER
MARK MORALES

COLORIST
SUNNY GHO
OF IFS

LETTERER
VC'S
JOE CARAMAGNA

COVER ART
MARKO
DJURDJEVIC

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
LAUREN SANKOVITCH

EDITOR
TOM BREVOORT

COLLECTION EDITOR: JENNIFER GRÜNWALD • ASSISTANT EDITORS: ALEX STARBUCK & NELSON RIBEIRO
EDITOR, SPECIAL PROJECTS: MARK D. BEAZLEY • SENIOR EDITOR, SPECIAL PROJECTS: JEFF YOUNGQUIST
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF SALES: DAVID GABRIEL • SVP OF BRAND PLANNING & COMMUNICATIONS: MICHAEL PASCIULLO
BOOK DESIGN: JEFF POWELL • DIGITAL MANAGER/PRODUCTION: TIM SMITH 3 • DIGITAL PRODUCTION: STACIE ZUCKER

EDITOR IN CHIEF: AXEL ALONSO • CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER: JOE QUESADA • PUBLISHER: DAN BUCKLEY • EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: ALAN FINE

© 2018 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. WWW.MARVEL.COM

FEAR ITSELF: BOOK OF THE SKULL

IT WASN'T EASY DECODING HIS ENCRYPTIONS...

CAN YOU *FEEL* IT, FATHER? EVEN FROM YOUR *GRAVE?*

BARON ZEMO
ALLEGIANCE CURRENTLY UNKNOWN

...BUT WE SHOULD BE *RIGHT OVER* THE LOCATION YOU TASKED ME WITH *FINDING.*

THE EGYPTIAN DESERT...DADDY ALWAYS *DID* LIKE HIS BARREN WASTES.

CAN YOU FEEL THE PULL OF DESTINY?

BUT IT'S *MY* DESTINY...NOT YOURS.

SIN
THE RED SKULL'S DAUGHTER AND HEIR

YES, AND HE DIDN'T MAKE HIS HIDDEN FORTRESSES EASY TO GET TO.

THE GROUND IS *BOOBY-TRAPPED*...IF ANYTHING LARGER THAN A FEW *SINGLE PEOPLE* TOUCH THAT SAND...

AH...*INSTANT DEATH,* RIGHT?

DOOOT

RIGHT. WHICH IS *WHY* WE'RE WEARING THESE--

--TELEPORTERS.

OKAY...SHOULD BE SOMETHING ON THE FACE OF THESE ROCKS...

SKTCH

THERE WE ARE.

YOU HAVE THE KEY?

YES.

ALL YOU KEPT HIDDEN, MY HATED FATHER...

YOUR DARKEST SECRETS AND *PLANS*...

NOW THEY WILL BE MINE.

HOW FAR *DOWN* DOES IT GO?

I DON'T REMEMBER... I HAVEN'T *BEEN HERE* SINCE I WAS...

...SIX YEARS OLD...

<UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY! UNAUTHORIZED ENTRY!>

YOU COULDN'T HAVE *REMEMBERED* THE *SECURITY DRONES?!*

I *DID!*

I JUST REMEMBERED THEM AS *PLAYMATES!*

HA! HA! HA!

LUNATIC! YOU'RE AS BAD AS YOUR *FATHER* WAS!

NO!

I'M WORSE!

AND *BETTER* AT THE SAME TIME.

YOU NEVER SAW THAT...

HOW I WAS MADE FOR THIS...

HOW BLOOD AND VIOLENCE AND SCREAMING...TO ME...

DOWN-- NOW!

...THEY'RE LIKE RETURNING TO THE WOMB.

AND WHEN YOU *DIED*, FATHER...

...STEVE ROGERS WASN'T THE *ONLY ONE* WHO WAS *REBORN*...

NICELY DONE...

I SHOULD *REALLY* MAKE YOU A *PERMANENT* PART OF MY ENTOURAGE, HELMUT.

I'M HERE TO REPAY MY *DEBT* TO YOU AND THAT'S *ALL*, GIRL.

THE SOONER WE GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS, THE *BETTER*.

OHHH...YOU'RE GONNA HURT MY *FEELINGS*...

I THINK *NOT*.

NOW, DO YOU SEE WHAT YOU'RE *LOOKING* FOR?

OR IS THERE SOME SECRET CHAMBER WE HAVE TO *FIGHT OUR WAY* TO?

OH, I KNOW *JUST* WHERE IT IS...

...I COULD NEVER FORGET ITS *WORN* BLUE LEATHER...

BLUE?

IS THAT *FLESH?*

PART OF THE *RITUAL* TO MAKE THE SPELLS INSIDE WORK...

...THE SKIN OF THE BOOK, CARVED FROM THE BACKS OF *DYING ATLANTEANS...*

GOOD GOD... WHAT'S *IN* THAT BOOK?

OH, NOTHING MUCH...

...ONLY THE RED SKULL'S *GREATEST FAILURE...*

GERMANY
FEBRUARY 1942

WHAT'S *TAKING* SO DAMNED LONG?!

[illegible]

[illegible]

WERE OUR *SACRIFICES* NOT WELCOME?!

YOU SAID THE ATLANTEANS WOULD BE *ENOUGH*, OLD MAN!

AND SO THEY *WERE*, HERR SKULL...

KRA-KOOM

THEY HAVE *ANSWERED* OUR CALL...

LOOK! THEIR GIFT RACES ACROSS THE SKY...

...

IT DIDN'T *LAND.*

IT *WILL.*

YES... BUT NOT *HERE!*

IT *DIDN'T* LAND HERE!

DO YOU *SEE* MY *PROBLEM?!*

I WASTED *MONTHS* TRACKING *ANCIENT MYTHS* IN THE MOUNTAINS...

I *EXTERMINATED* A GYPSY TRIBE FOR THE *SECRET DEAD LANGUAGE* CARVED INTO THEIR BACKS AT BIRTH...

HERR SKULL, PLEASE...

I'VE DONE ALL THIS *AND MORE* BECAUSE THE *LEADER* OF MY *THULE SOCIETY* HAS TOLD ME TO...

AND NOW OUR *WEAPON* HAS GONE... *WHERE?!*

WE ARE DEALING WITH FORCES FROM *BEYOND,* HERR SKULL...

THEY ARE *NOT* EASILY CONTROLLED.

WE WILL *ASCERTAIN* ITS LOCATION, HERR SKULL.

ITS *POWER* CANNOT BE DIFFICULT TO TRACE...

YES, WE'LL DO *EXACTLY* THAT.

THEN DO IT *QUICKLY...*

...I WANT TO *GET OUT* OF THIS DAMNED COUNTRYSIDE...

NEXT DAY

WHAT'S THE *REPORT*, BUCKY?

ALL CLEAR NOW. WAS *MOSTLY* DESERTED...NO SKULL *OR* STRUCKER.

CAUGHT ONE OF THEIR *HOODOO PRIESTS* TRYIN' TO SNEAK OUT OF THE CATACOMBS ON MY WAY IN.

GOT HIM *TIED UP*, BUT HE WON'T BE COMIN' AROUND FOR A WHILE.

ANY SIGN OF MY *PEOPLE* IN THERE?

YEAH... AND *LISTEN*, NAMOR. IT'S NOT...

...YOU DON'T WANNA--

WHAT HAVE THEY *DONE?*

JUST SAY THE WORD, NAMOR.

WHAT DO YOU NEED US TO DO?

CUT THEM DOWN.

KRAAK

AHH!

WHY *MY* PEOPLE?!

WHY NOT SACRIFICE YOUR *OWN* KIND?!

PLEASE! PLEASE-- I'LL *TELL* YOU!

WE TAKE THE *BLUE-SKINNED* MEN BECAUSE *THEY* PREFER THEIR BLOOD...

PERHAPS BECAUSE THEY *TASTE* UN-HUMAN...?

RAHH!

NOOO--

NAMOR-- *WAIT!*

WE STILL *NEED* HIM.

FOR *WHAT?*

FOR STARTERS...SO HE CAN TELL US EXACTLY WHO *"THEY"* ARE...

"...AND WHAT THE HELL THE RED SKULL THINKS HE'S BOUGHT WITH THIS SACRIFICE."

ANTARCTICA

COORDINATES ARE DEAD AHEAD, HERR SKULL.

WE CAN SEE THE IMPACT NOW.

WE'VE FOUND IT.

REPEAT, WE'VE FOUND IT.

TAKE IT *EASY*, NAMOR...

...YOU'RE GONNA BLOW AN *ENGINE*, PUSHIN' *THAT HARD* IN THIS WEATHER.

I *KNOW* MY OWN SHIP, BARNES.

YEAH... AN' I KNOW HOW *ANGRY* YOU ARE RIGHT NOW.

WE'LL FIND THEM, PAL...YOU *KNOW* WE WILL.

THINK I'M ON *NAMOR'S* SIDE IN THIS ONE, BUCKY.

SOONER IS *BETTER*...

THAT *THULE PRIEST* SAID THEY BROUGHT SOMETHING FROM *BEYOND* TO HELP THE NAZIS WIN THE WAR.

AND I'D LIKE TO *FIND* WHATEVER THAT *IS* BEFORE THE RED SKULL GETS HIS HANDS ON IT...

THIS *CAN'T* BE IT.

I EXPECTED AN *ARMY*...OR A *GOD*...

NOT THIS--THIS *THING*--THAT CANNOT BE *BUDGED* OR *AWAKENED*.

YOU HAVE *BETRAYED* ME!

NO, HERR SKULL. WE DID AS *ASKED*.

AND THERE IS *GREAT POWER* HERE... I FEEL IT IN MY SOUL.

WE SIMPLY NEED *TIME* TO UNDERSTAND HOW TO *HARNESS* IT.

TIME... WELL, YOU WILL *HAVE* IT.

NONE OF YOU *THULE* WILL LEAVE THIS FROZEN WASTE UNTIL THE PROBLEM IS *SOLVED*.

BUILD A FORTRESS TO HOUSE THIS... *THING*...IF YOU NEED TO.

BUT... WE DO NOT KNOW IF WE *CAN* HOLD IT...

HERR SKULL...

...*BARON STRUCKER* REPORTS FROM THE *BASE CAMP*...THEY'VE SPOTTED *MOVEMENT* IN THE HAZE...

THE *AMERICANS?*

THEY AREN'T CERTAIN *WHAT* IT IS YET, HERR SKULL.

THIS IS WHAT I'M *SAYING*, SIR... WE'RE OUT OF OUR *DEPTH*.

WE DON'T KNOW IF SOMETHING *ELSE* WAS AWAKENED WHEN IT *LANDED*...

...OR EVEN IF IT'S THE *ONLY ONE* OF ITS KIND.

"AFTER ALL, IT *MAY NOT* HAVE COME *ALONE*..."

HOLD ON. THIS WILL *NOT* BE AN EASY LANDING.

OUR WINGS HAVE *ICE* AND--

NAMOR--LOOK OUT!

KRRRCHH!

MEIN GOTT...

HAVE WE RAISED A DEMON...?

SIR?

GIVE THE *ORDER*, SERGEANT...

"...WE *ATTACK* THE AMERICANS WHILE THEY'RE *DISTRACTED*."

ALL RIGHT, *MONSTER*... PREPARE TO MEET *DESTRUCTION*.

NAMOR, *WAIT*. WE NEED A PLAN, WE CAN'T JUST--

DAMN IT.

IS *THAT THING* THE SKULL'S SECRET WEAPON FROM *BEYOND?*

I DON'T KNOW...

SCHMMMM!

...BUT I'D *HATE* TO SEE IT ON THE FRONT LINES...

SO WE *STOP IT* HERE. *ANY WAY* WE CAN.

WISH I HAD MORE *GRENADES* THEN, AND--

NAZIS AT TEN O'CLOCK!

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

I'LL HOLD 'EM OFF!

YOU HELP NAMOR!

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

KAAAHH--

SMAASH

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

ALL RIGHT, WHO WANTS SOME *KNUCKLE SANDWICH?!*

LET'S JUST HOPE *THIS--*

--BRINGS YOU DOWN!

RAAAHHH!

KRAT ATATAT ATAT

KAAH RAHH!

THAT'S IT-- GET IN THE *CROSSFIRE!*

HEADS UP, NAMOR... *AIR SUPPORT...*

VERDAMMT! THEY ARE TOO FAST ON OUR TRAIL...

THIS NUISANCE MUST STOP!

NAMOR-- LOOK OUT!

DIE, AMERIKAN! DIE!!

CHOOM CHOOM CHOOM

GRAAAAHHH!

AHH! DAMN IT!
BUCKY! GET AWAY FROM IT!
W-WHAT--
OH.
EAT A F-FRAG-- YA B-BIG APE!

C'MON, PAL...I GOT YOU...

...F-F-FAT LOTTA HELP...

...YOU TWO S-S-UPER-MEN W-W-WERE...

DAMN THEM! I CAN GIVE CHASE!

I CAN RIP THE SKULL'S CRAFT *RIGHT OUT OF THE SKY!*

ANOTHER DAY, NAMOR. BUCKY'S *FREEZING...*

WE NEED TO GET YOUR SHIP *FLIGHT-WORTHY* AS FAST AS WE CAN...GET HIM OFF THIS *ICE.*

...D-DON'T MIND ME...JUST THE G-G-GUY WHO KILLED THE... G-G-GIANT M-MONSTER...

C'MON...THERE ARE *BLANKETS* IN THE SHIP.

WE'LL HAVE *OTHER CHANCES* TO CAPTURE THE SKULL...

...AT LEAST WE STOPPED HIS *MASTER PLAN.*

SO, WHAT *WAS IT*, THEN... THAT ALL MY MEN *DIED* TO KEEP HIDDEN?

WHAT WAS YOUR *PRIZE* FROM THE *HEAVENS*, *HERR* SKULL?

OH, THAT...IS IN A *CRATE* IN THE HOLD...

AND IT IS FOR THE *FUHRER'S* EYES ONLY, BARON.

"BUT MY FATHER *LIED*, BECAUSE NONE OF THEM COULD *LIFT* THE PRIZE TO PUT IT IN A CRATE.

"NOT *THAT DAY* OR ANY OTHER THAT FOLLOWED.

IGOR, READY THE PROTECTION SPELLS...UNTIL WE BUILD WALLS...

...OUR *MAGIC* WILL HAVE TO KEEP THIS HIDDEN...

"ALL THEY COULD DO IS WATCH AND WAIT AND STUDY...

"...THIS *HAMMER* THAT FELL FROM THE SKIES."

NEVER REALIZING ITS *POWER* WASN'T MEANT FOR *THEM*.

A *HAMMER?* THE GODS SENT THE NAZIS A HAMMER?

NO... NOT THE *GODS*...YOU MISUNDER-STAND...

...JUST AS THEY ALL DID BACK--

UH-OH...

EARTH-QUAKE?

MORE LIKELY IT'S ANOTHER OF YOUR FATHER'S *BOOBY TRAPS!*

THE *WHOLE PLACE* IS COMING DOWN!

WE HAVE TO GET TO THE *SURFACE-- GO!*

WELL, I'LL GIVE YOU ONE THING...IT'S NEVER BORING WHEN YOU'RE--

SORRY, ZEMO.

THIS IS *MY* TASK ALONE NOW...

HEY!

BZAAM ZAMM

WHAT DID YOU--? MY TELEPORT...

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SAID IT...

THE *SOONER* WE GO OUR SEPARATE WAYS...

...THE *BETTER*...

SIN!

WUUHH--

NO... YOU ARE *NOT*...

...*STEALING* MY HOVER-CRAFT.

ARE YOU WATCHING FROM YOUR PIT IN *HELL*, FATHER?

OKAY, SIN... WELL PLAYED. HOPE THAT HAMMER'S WHAT YOU *THINK* IT IS...

DO YOU UNDERSTAND NOW? THAT IT WAS ALWAYS *MY* DESTINY...

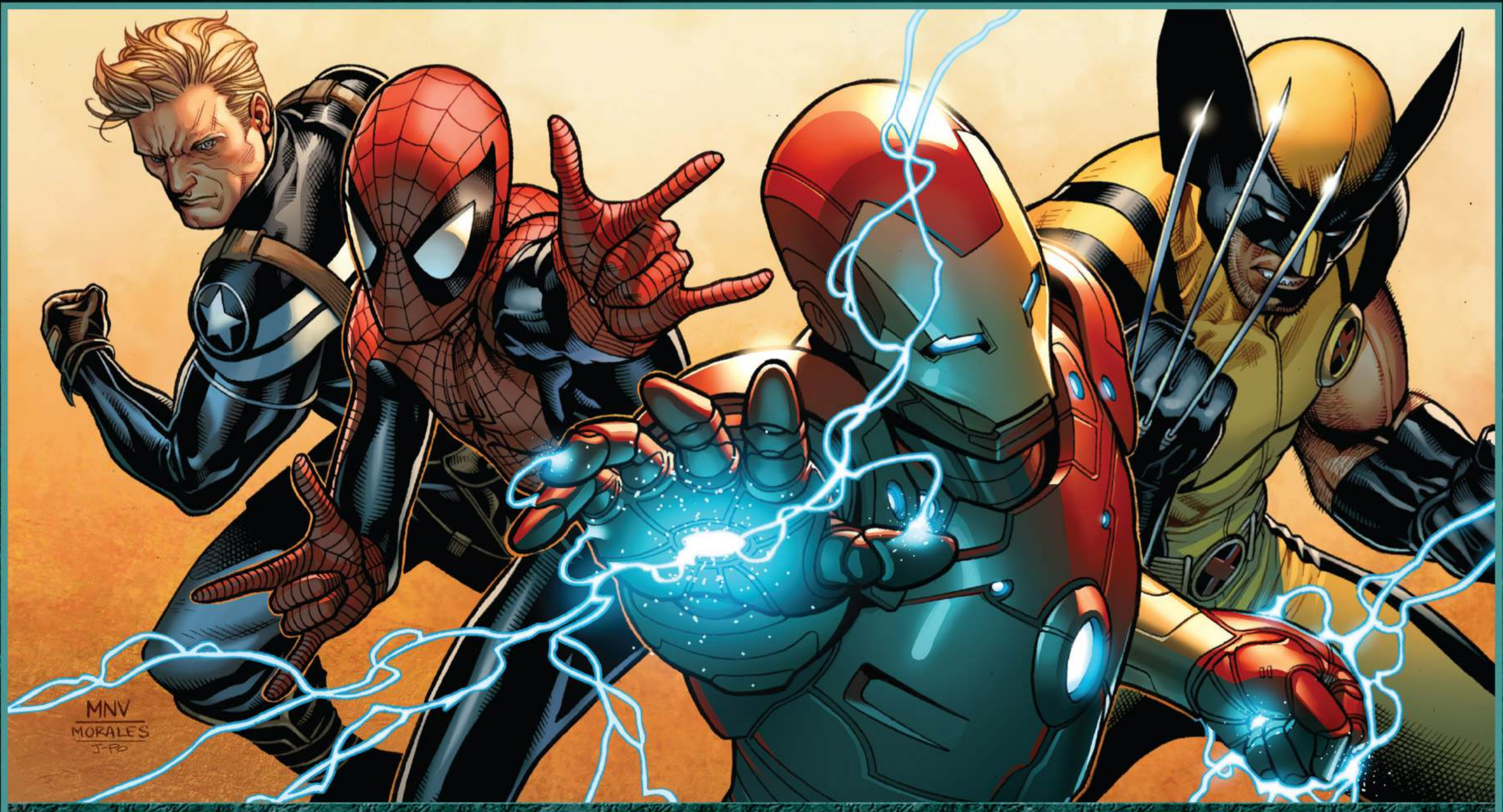
...*NEVER* YOURS.

...BECAUSE YOU JUST MADE A *BRAND NEW ENEMY.*

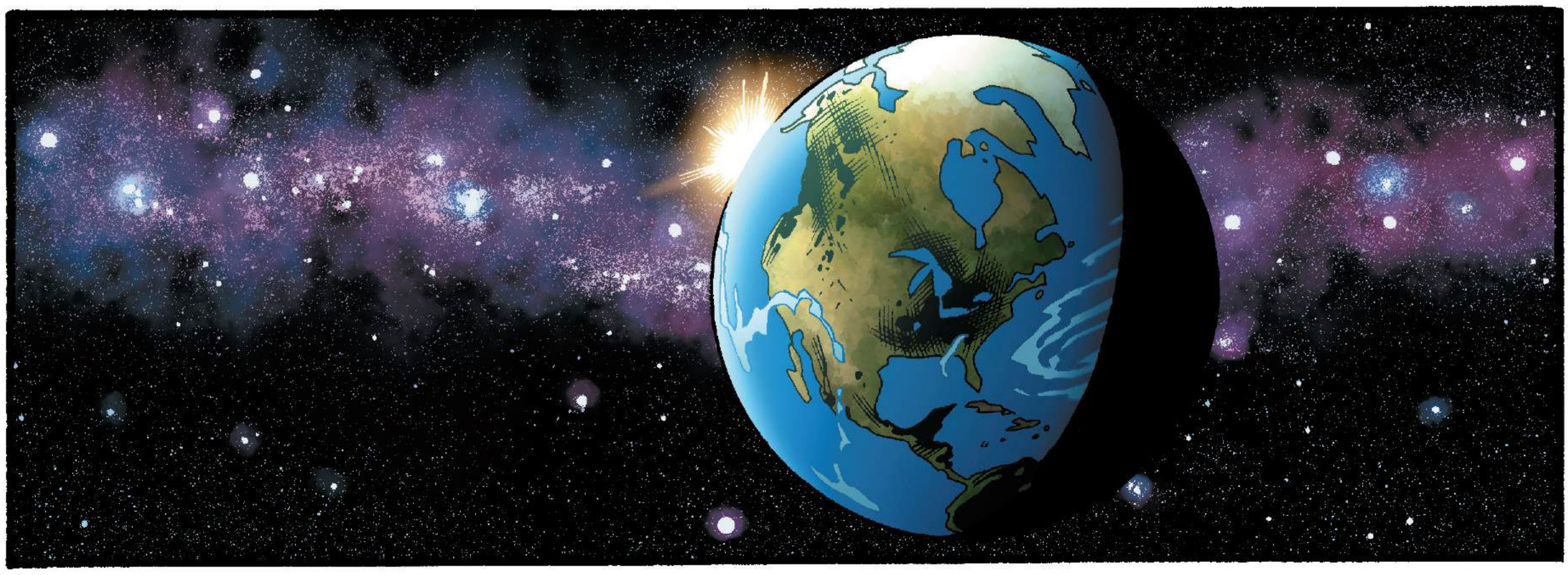
THE RED SKULL'S FAILURE WILL BE HIS DAUGHTER'S TRIUMPH...

...AND I WILL *RESHAPE* THIS WORLD.

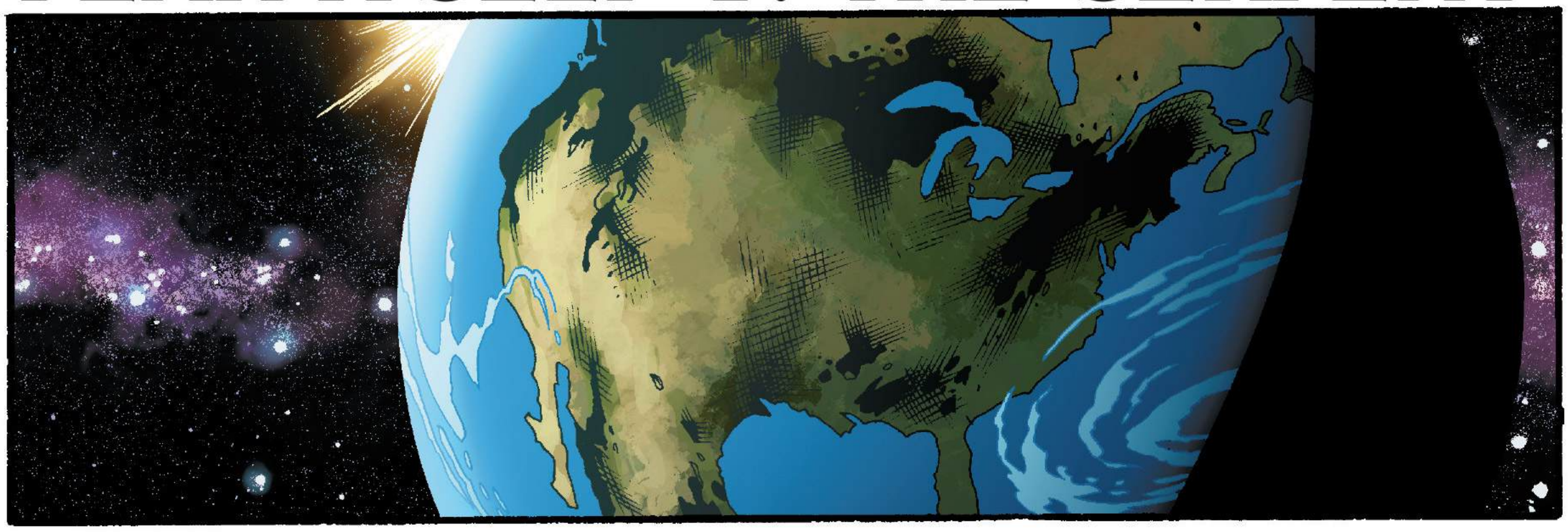
FEAR ITSELF #1 VARIANT BY **STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBADGER** & **LAURA MARTIN**



BOOK ONE



FEAR ITSELF 1: THE SERPENT



MATT FRACTION

STUART IMMONEN

WADE VON GRAWBADGER

LAURA MARTIN

CHRIS ELIOPOULOS

LAUREN SANKOVITCH

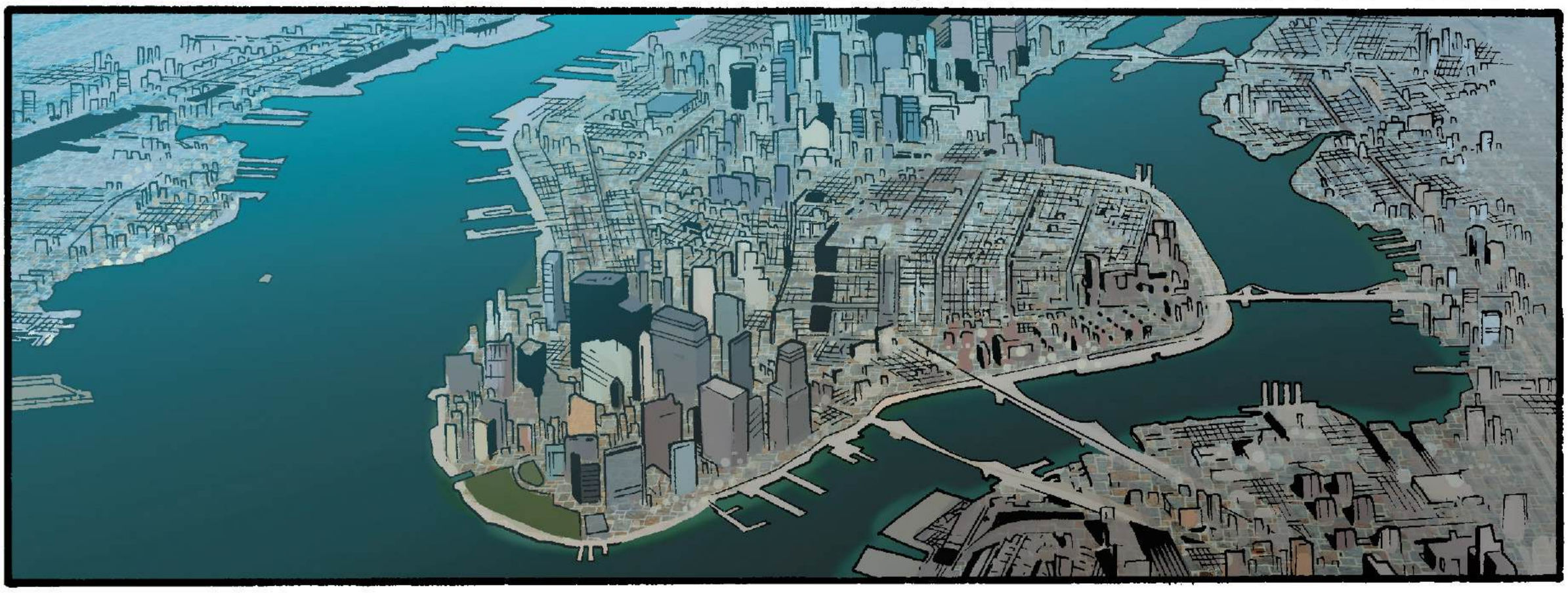
TOM BREVOORT

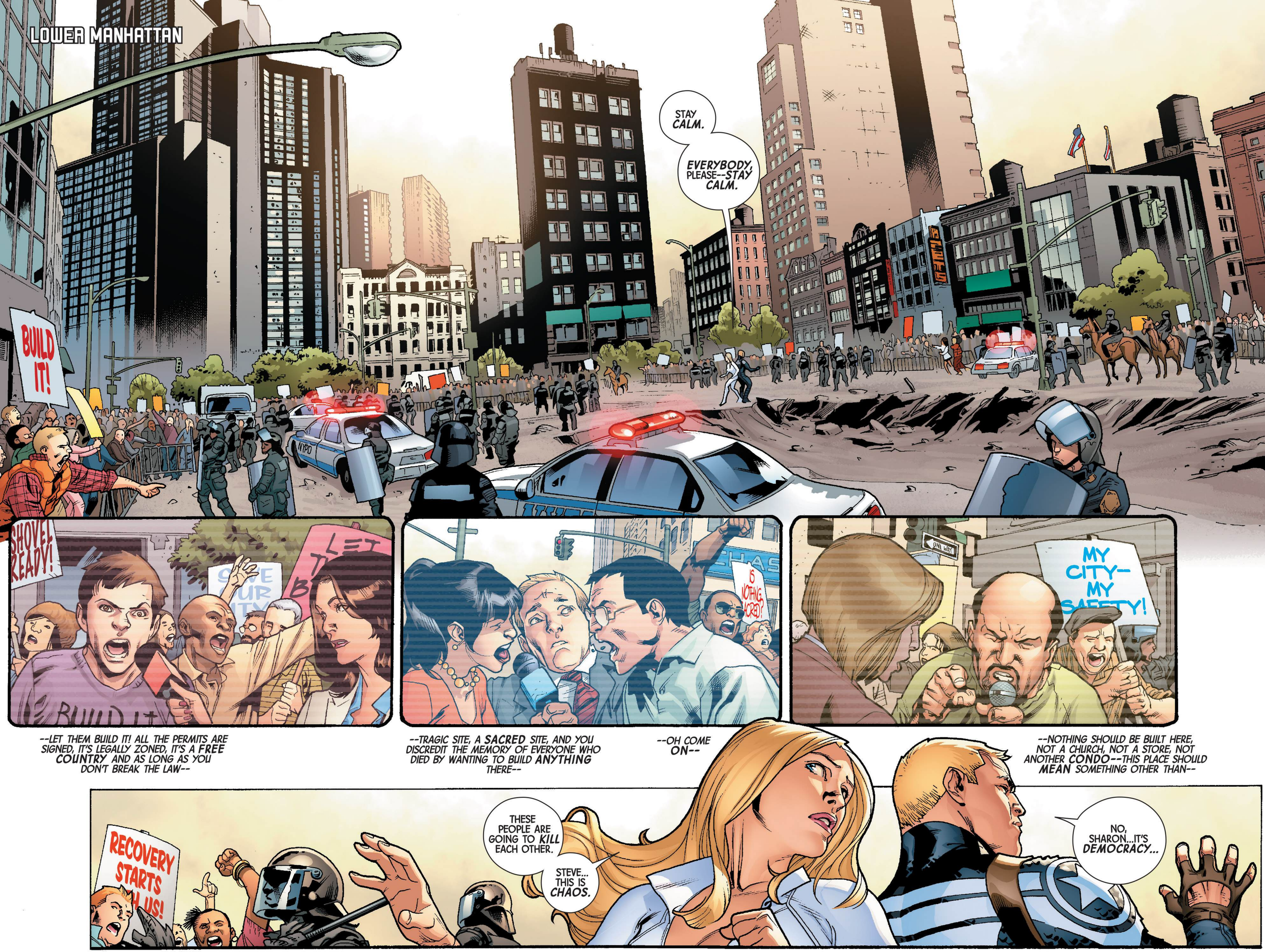
AXEL ALONSO

JOE QUESADA

DAN BUCKLEY

ALAN FINE




LOWER MANHATTAN
STAY CALM.
EVERYBODY, PLEASE--STAY CALM.
BUILD IT!
NYPD
SHOVEL READY!
LET
BUILD IT
IS NOTHING SACRED?
ONE WAY
MY CITY-- MY SAFETY!
--LET THEM BUILD IT! ALL THE PERMITS ARE SIGNED, IT'S LEGALLY ZONED, IT'S A FREE COUNTRY AND AS LONG AS YOU DON'T BREAK THE LAW--
--TRAGIC SITE, A SACRED SITE, AND YOU DISCREDIT THE MEMORY OF EVERYONE WHO DIED BY WANTING TO BUILD ANYTHING THERE--
--OH COME ON--
--NOTHING SHOULD BE BUILT HERE, NOT A CHURCH, NOT A STORE, NOT ANOTHER CONDO--THIS PLACE SHOULD MEAN SOMETHING OTHER THAN--
RECOVERY STARTS
THESE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO KILL EACH OTHER.
STEVE... THIS IS CHAOS.
NO, SHARON...IT'S DEMOCRACY...

"THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO PEACEABLY ASSEMBLE" DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT DOING IT QUIETLY.

IF YOU SAY SO.

THIS FEELS LIKE A *RIOT* TO ME...

--WHOA--

STOP THEM!

IS NOTHING SACRED?

VOX POPULI

MY CITY--MY SAFETY!

GET BACK, *GET BACK*--

--NEED *BACKUP* DOWN HERE *ASAP*--

--THEY'RE GETTING REALLY *OUT OF CONTROL*--

STEADY-- *STEADY*--

SAVE OUR CITY!

RECOVERY STARTS WITH US!

YES!

--NO--

STEADY!!

NO--!

SHOVEL READY!

THERE'S YOUR RIOT.

RECOVERY STARTS WITH

VOX POPULI

GREAT.

NO!

MY CITY--MY SAFETY!

SHOVEL READY!

--BREAKING NEWS FROM MANHATTAN AS VIOLENCE ERUPTS DURING A HIGHLY CONTENTIOUS PROTEST--

--SEEMS THAT A PROTESTER ASSAULTED ONE OR MORE POLICE OFFICERS AND THAT LED TO AN EXPLOSION OF VIOLENCE--

--THINGS ARE OUT OF CONTROL--

--HANG ON--

--STEVE ROGERS!--YOU'RE--YOU WERE--MOST PEOPLE STILL THINK OF YOU AS CAPTAIN AMERICA--

--WHAT SIDE OF THE ISSUE DO YOU COME DOWN ON?

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

I'M ANTI-RIOT. NOW GO HOME--

--WHOA!!

HELLO? JAMIE?

JAMIE, WE'VE LOST YOU--

STEVE!!

I'M FINE.
WASN'T READY. I'M FINE--
IT'S NOT STOPPING.
THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE. THAT'S *OUR* JOB.
HOW?
HOW DO WE STOP ALL *THIS?*
...STEVE?

ANTARCTICA
LONG -71.20
LAT - 81.91

THE MEN WE'RE ABOUT TO ENCOUNTER HAVE BEEN TRAPPED INSIDE THIS PLACE SINCE 1942.

THEY HAVE BEEN *ISOLATED* FROM THE WORLD AND KEPT ALIVE BY NAZI *SUPERSCIENCE* PERFECTED BY THE FIRST *RED SKULL.*

AND *HE*--MY DARLING *FATHER*--LEFT THEM HERE WITH THE SOLE CHARGE OF *DEFENDING* THE PRIZE *FORTRESS NULL* WAS *BUILT* AROUND.

THIS IS THE FINAL RESTING PLACE OF ADOLF HITLER'S *THULE SOCIETY.*

THEY'VE BEEN TOLD THAT UNLESS *HITLER HIMSELF* OPENED THE DOOR...

...THAT THEY ARE ALL TO *DIE* IN HIS NAME, PROTECTING HIS SECRETS.

WHAT A *WASTE.*

KILL THEM ALL.

(INVASION!)

OH, DAD.

PUTTING *LIBRARIANS* BETWEEN *ME* AND YOUR GREATEST *TREASURE.*

MORE BLOODSHED.

MORE CHAOS.

WHERE ARE YOU...?

AH.

DADDY'S JOURNAL SAYS IT'S OVER *HERE.*

LEFT AHEAD. THEN RIGHT.

KEEP SHOOTING! ALMOST THERE.

<PROTECT THE VAULT--!>

HEIL HIT--

INCOMING.

OPEN IT.

NOW.

STAND *BACK*, MA'AM.

--YAH!

MY GOD.

IT'S *PERFECT.*

MY HAMMER IS PERFECT.

OUT OF THE WAY.

MA'AM...*THE RED SKULL* TRIED TO LIFT IT, AND FAILED. THE *FÜHRER HIMSELF* COULD NOT PRY IT FREE.

WHY DO YOU BELIEVE IT WAS MEANT FOR *YOU?*

BECAUSE I SAW IT IN A DREAM.

I WAS THE QUEEN OF THE WORLD. *I KILLED CAPTAIN AMERICA* WITH A *HAMMER* AND THEY MADE ME QUEEN OF THE WORLD.

AND EVERYONE WAS *AFRAID...*

NOW *MOVE*, IDIOT--THAT *DREAM* IS ABOUT TO BECOME A *PROPHECY.*

THE RUNES *MATCH* WHAT'S WRITTEN IN *YOUR FATHER'S JOURNALS:*

"AND HE WHO SHALL BE WORTHY WILL WIELD THE HAMMER OF SKADI!"

"SKADI." PERFECT.

IT'S TIME

BEHOLD:

I AM...

...RESURRECTED...

FATHER.

YOU'RE NEXT.

MANHATTAN
AVENGERS TOWER

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.

IMPROBABLE, MAYBE.

NOTHING ABNORMAL WITH ANY TECH IN THE AREA. NO WEIRD ENERGY SIGNATURES REGISTERING ON ANY SPECTRUM WE RECORDED...

THERE WERE NO ENCHANTMENTS ABOUT.

AIR, WATER, AND ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICITY REPORTS ARE ALL BLANK.

THAT WAS A NO-VILLAINS-BEHIND-IT RIOT, PURE AND SIMPLE.

THAT'S... DISAPPOINTING.

IT WAS CHAOS. PEOPLE JUST SCREAMING-- AT EACH OTHER'S THROATS--

AND I COULDN'T STOP IT.

STEVE--BUDDY-- DON'T TAKE THIS THE WRONG WAY, BUT...

...WELL, "CAPTAIN AMERICA" DOESN'T COME WITH THE SAME CACHE IT ONCE DID.

AND YOU'RE NOT EVEN THAT ANYMORE.

THANKS, STARK. YOU'RE A REAL SWELL.

I'M SORRY THAT'S HARD TO HEAR, GREATEST GENERATION, BUT IT'S TRUE. PEOPLE ARE MAD RIGHT NOW, AND BROKE AND THEY'VE BEEN LIED TO AND RIPPED OFF--

AND WHEN PEOPLE WHO'RE ALREADY MAD GET SCARED THEN ALL HELL KINDA BREAKS LOOSE.

SO HOW DID YOU GUYS GET OUT OF IT, HMM? IN YOUR DAY?

YOU BUILT.

LOOK, I'M NOT SAYING I HAVE THE ANSWER, BUT I HAVE AN ANSWER--

I HATE WHEN YOU PITCH US, STARK...

I'M NOT-- OKAY A LITTLE--IT'S JUST--

--THE ASGARDIANS NEED A NEW CITY ON EARTH. THOR'S AGREED TO LET ME DESIGN AND BUILD IT FOR THEM.

SO--SO, LOOK, I KNOW THIS SOUNDS A LITTLE STUNT-Y, AND IT IS, BUT WHY NOT STAND WITH ME WHEN I ANNOUNCE THE PROJECT?

LET'S MAKE IT AN EVENT, I'M SAYING. BECAUSE WE CAN'T PUNCH A RECESSION OR FROG MARCH ALL OF WALL STREET INTO THE NEGATIVE ZONE OR SUDDENLY MAKE EVERYONE FEEL SAFE AGAIN.

BUT I'M ABOUT TO PUT A WHOLE LOT OF PEOPLE TO WORK AND I'D LIKE TO SHARE THAT VICTORY A LITTLE BIT.

BROXTON, OK

OKAY, EVERYBODY-- GET YOUR CAMERAS READY!

...THERE'S LOTS OF TOWNS OUT THERE WITH FRIENDLY PEOPLE AND REMARKABLE SISTER CITIES...

BUT NOWHERE ARE THE PEOPLE MORE FRIENDLY, OR THE SISTER CITY MORE AMAZING, THAN HERE IN GOOD OLD BROXTON.

AND EVER SINCE THE **NORSE GODS** DECIDED TO MAKE **EARTH** THEIR HOME, WE'VE BEEN WELCOMING FOLKS FROM ALL AROUND TO OUR LITTLE CORNER OF OKLAHOMA...

ODIN'S TOURS

Welcome To BROXTON Neighbors to t GODS

AND, FOLKS, WHILE I CAN'T PROMISE YOU WE'LL **MEET** ANY OF BROXTON'S FAMOUS NEIGHBORS WHILE WE'RE ON THE TOUR, I CAN TELL YOU THEY'RE JUST LIKE **US**...

...ONLY **BIGGER**, A LITTLE **LOUDER**, AND, LORD, DO THEY KNOW HOW TO MAKE A RUCKUS.

THE CLOSENESS BETWEEN BROXTON AND ASGARD **HAS** CAUSED ITS SHARE OF... WELL...BETWEEN THE **GODS**, THE **SUPER HEROES**, THE **FISTICUFFS**, AND EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN, LET'S JUST SAY LIFE AROUND HERE ISN'T **QUIET**...

...BUT IT'S A **SMALL PRICE** TO PAY FOR ALL THE **FIREWORKS**...

Kilpatrick Realty FOR SALE

THAT IT, BILL?

YEAH, PAL. THAT'S ALL SHE WROTE.

BYE-BYE, BROXTON.

SURE WISH YOU ALL COULD FIND A WAY TO STAY.

WHAT *FOR?* WHAT'S LEFT FOR US HERE?

JOB'S GONE, SAVINGS IS GONE... BANK'S GOT THE *HOUSE...*

UNLESS YOU'VE GOT TWO ROOMS AND A 401K TO SPARE, RICK, I THINK WE GOTTA SHUFFLE UP TO WICHITA.

MY SISTER'S UP THERE. SHE'S GOT ROOM FOR ALL OF US.

AT LEAST FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

HEY, DARLENE.

HEY, RICK.

JUST A DAMN SHAME. Y'ALL LOSIN' YOUR HOUSE AND...

EVERYTHING.

...EVERYTHING, YEAH.

JUST A *SHAME.*

Y'KNOW, STARK AND THE AVENGERS, THEY'RE SAYING THEY'RE STARTING A BIG *BUILDING* PROJECT. THEY'RE SAYING THEY'RE GONNA PUT THE WHOLE TOWN TO WORK REBUILDING *ASGARD.*

YEAH, WELL.

TELL 'EM THEY SHOULDA BUILT ME A NEW DAMN HOUSE FIRST.

"AND, RICK--ONE MORE THING:

"START LOCKING YOUR DOORS AT NIGHT."

"WHAT, IN *BROXTON?*"

"THIS STUFF KEEPS HAPPENING AND FOLKS'LL BE AT EACH OTHER'S *THROATS* SOON.

STOP

"STAY *SAFE*, PAL. KEEP YOUR *FAMILY* SAFE..."

ASGARD

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US ON THIS--

THE FIRST DAY OF WHAT WE HOPE IS THE START OF A BOLD NEW ERA.

THE FIRST OF *MANY* PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS PRIVATELY FUNDED AND OVERSEEN BY **STARK RESILIENT**, THIS WILL EMPLOY NEARLY 5000 PEOPLE RIGHT HERE IN BROXTON.

ASGARD STANDS WITH YOU.

AS DO THE *AVENGERS.*

WHEN THINGS WERE AT THEIR MOST DIRE, A MADMAN BROUGHT A CITY BUILT FOR *GODS* CRASHING TO EARTH.

AS FAR AS METAPHORS GO, IT'S RIGHT ON THE NOSE.

THERE IS SO MUCH ANXIETY IN THE AIR THESE DAYS--FEAR, DESOLATION, UNCERTAINTY, DOUBT--

AND HERE IS THIS CASTLE, IN ASHES, STREWN ACROSS OUR HEARTLAND.

THE AVENGERS SAY *"RISE UP."* THE AVENGERS SAY, *"REBUILD."*

JOIN US AND *REBUILD.*

THE RECENT INNOVATIONS MY COMPANY, ***STARK RESILIENT***, HAS ACCOMPLISHED WITH REPULSOR POWER ARE THE FIRST STEPS TOWARDS CARVING A FUTURE MORE *GLORIOUS* THAN WE'VE EVER DARED IMAGINE.

AS AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT WE *KNOW* TO BE POSSIBLE...

...WE'LL START WITH ***ASGARD.*** STARK RESILIENT AND THE PEOPLE OF BROXTON ARE GOING TO BUILD THE FUTURE HERE, ***NOW.***

THOR. YOU WITH US, BIG GUY?

ODIN.

HE IS *MY FATHER.* HE SHOULD *BE HERE.*

WELL, BOSS?

LOTS 'A *WEIRDOS* DOWN THERE. WHO ARE THEY?

THEY ARE THE *DEAD.*

THEY MATTER *NOT* ANYMORE.

PTOO

AH.

I HAD A *FEELING* WE'D MEET AGAIN.

THE WITNESS.

YOU. WATCHER.

ALL THESE EONS STARING AND WATCHING EVERYTHING.

SO SANCTIMONIOUS IN YOUR SILENCE AND YOUR JUDGMENT.

HAVE YOU COME THEN AT LAST TO WITNESS MY GREATEST FAILURE?

SKADI AWAKENS--I FEAR THE FINAL PROPHESY IS AT HAND. AND THERE YOU STAND, LIKE A TITANIC, MUTE BABY TOO DUMB TO BE OF USE.

WHO ARE YOU TO JUDGE THE ALL-FATHER?

AM I TO TREMBLE AT YOUR APPEARANCE?

HAVE YOU COME TO WITNESS THE BREAKING OF WORLDS, THEN, IN YOUR MORBID AND CRUEL CURIOSITY?

WELL?

WELL?!?

ARE YOU HERE TO SEE A GOD DIE?

ONLY A COWARD WOULD AVERT HIS GAZE SO!

HOW DARE YOU TURN YOUR BACK ON ODIN!

I AM THE FATHER OF ALL THINGS! I AM THE FURY AND THE EXTINCTION! THE LEADER OF SOULS! COMMANDER OF WARRIOR *GODS!*

I SHALL NOT BE WATCHED AND I SHALL NOT BE JUDGED--

FATHER?

FATHER, WHY DO YOU *SCREAM* SO?

I--
THOR?
I...

WHAT, DO YOU *WANT*, BOY?

I CAME TO FIND YOU.

WHY DO YOU NOT STAND WITH US?

WHO IS THIS..."US" OF WHICH YOU SPEAK?

THOSE RIDICULOUSLY-ATTIRED *APES* YOU DALLY ABOUT WITH?

HEROES, ONE AND--

WE COULD REBUILD THE CITY WITH THE SNAP OF OUR FINGERS.

AND WE *SHOULD*--IN *ASGARD-SPACE*, NOT ON *EARTH* AMONGST THESE *CHILDREN.*

WHY THIS CHARADE? WHY MUST THE ASGARDIANS APPEAR *DEPENDENT* ON...

OF *ALL* CREATURES...

MAN?

THE *AVENGERS*... SEEK TO TURN ASGARD'S *ASCENT* INTO A SYMBOL OF OUR *PARTNERSHIP.*

GODS. AND *MAN.*

WE ARE A *PART* OF THEIR LIVES AS MUCH AS WE EVER WERE.

JUST BECAUSE THEY NO LONGER BURN *EFFIGIES* IN YOUR NAME--

IMPUDENT *WHELP--*

ARE YOU MAN OR ARE YOU GOD?!?

THESE... ANTS...

...CAN'T EVEN TAKE CARE OF ONE ANOTHER.

AND NOW YOU HAVE INVITED THEM TO BUILD OUR HOME.

A SNAP OF THE FINGERS. THAT'S ALL IT WOULD TAKE.

WHAT HAS MAN EVER GIVEN US BUT ENTERTAINMENT AND DISAPPOINTMENT?

CHOOSE, BOY.

man.

PFFT.

SOFT.

PACIFIC OCEAN
11KM ABOVE THE MARIANAS TRENCH

I AM *SIN*--

I AM THE *RED SKULL*--

AND YET--NOW--

I AM **SKADI.**

AND DOWN I GO.

I AM AWARE OF EVERYTHING I DO, AND YET...IT FEELS AS IF NONE OF IT IS REALLY MY *IDEA.*

THE SOUND OF THE VOICE INSIDE MY HEAD IS STILL *MINE,* BUT *LOUDER.*

I AM HER *AVATAR,* HER *INSTRUMENT,* AND I HAVE WAITED MY WHOLE LIFE TO BE *PLAYED.*

AND DOWN HERE IN THE DEEP--IN THE *DARK*--*HE* HAS BEEN WAITING FOR US.

SO WE *GO.*

FATHER.

WE--*I*--*AM COMING.*

AS IT WAS *WRITTEN.* AS IT WAS *PROMISED* LONG AGO.

I ONLY PRAY I AM NOT *TOO LATE.*

RELENTLESS.

ETERNAL.

...

AND *UNSTOPPABLE.*

ENDLESS.

MY HAMMER--A LEGENDARY WEAPON OF UNSPEAKABLE VIOLENCE--

--OF WHICH ONLY I AM *WORTHY* TO WIELD--

--*HUNGERS* FOR THIS.

AS DO I. IN SO *MANY* WAYS...

THIS IS WHY I--WHY *WE*-- WERE BORN IN THE FIRST PLACE.

HHHYYY YYUUUUUU UUUUUUUU GGHH--

HHHUUUH.

HHHUUH.

HEH.

FOUND IT.

MY CHILD.

YOU HAVE RETURNED TO ME.

WHO'S THERE?

SHOW YOURSELF!

FATHER...

ALL-FATHER.

MY CHILD.

I AM RETURNED.

AND THUS...

THUS THAT MOST *WRETCHED* OF PROPHESIES BEGINS TO UNFOLD, AS I SO FEARED.

HE'S *BACK.*

THE *SERPENT* IS BACK.

AN AGE OF HEROES! OF COURSE!

WHY, ADDING VOLSTAGG TO YOUR ROSTER IS ALL YOU NEED TO TRULY BECOME THE EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES!

VOLSTAGG AND THE AVENGERS!

IMAGINE IT, STEVEN! WITH YOUR MIND!

YEAH, BIG GUY, I GOT IT, I GOT IT...

MY LORD.

I--

THOR, I SEE--

EVERYTHING.

HE HAS RETURNED!

HE IS COMING!

GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF, HEIMDALL--

YOUR ALL-SIGHT HAS VEXED YOU MORE THAN ONCE, OLD FRIEND--

MY CHILDREN.

OUR TIME HERE IS DONE.

GATHER YOURSELVES AT THE WORLD TREE.

WE ARE GOING HOME.

THE ORDER IS GIVEN.

WAIT.

FATHER, WAIT--

DAMN YOU, ODIN--

ENOUGH!

ALL RIGHT, YOU ONE-EYED BASTARD...

THOR!

HO-LEE...

ALL RIGHT--!

--BBUUWWKK--

ENOUGH.

YOU POUT? YOU RANT? SO BE IT.

YOU STORM AROUND BARKING ORDERS LIKE *FIATS* AND EXPECT US TO CHASE AFTER YOU LIKE *ANIMALS?* NO.

THIS IS NOT THE *ASGARD OF OLD.* YOU HOLD *NOT* THE SWAY YOU ONCE HAD HERE.

MJOLNIR.

DROP.

YES.

ODIN *GIVETH;* ODIN *TAKETH* AWAY.

I AM YOUR FATHER. I AM THE ALL-FATHER.

I AM THE GOD OF AXE AND SWORD, OF SHIELD AND WIND AND *WOLF.*

AND I AM TELLING YOU: THE WOLF AGE IS UPON US NOW.

YOU WILL RETURN TO ASGARD WITH YOUR OWN *KIND--*

--EVEN IF YOU ARE ON YOUR KNEES IN *CHAINS.*

TRY IT, OLD MAN--

GGRRRRaaaaahh!

WWRRUF--

WATCH OUT, BOSS!

THOR!

ROGERS, *NO--*

THIS IS... A FAMILY CONCERN.

HE'S GOING TO *KILL HIM--*

YOU *DISAPPOINT-MENT.*

I TRIED. I REALLY--

--DID!

AND YET SHORT OF SPELLING IT OUT, I MUST SHAME YOU THUS.

SO BE IT.

BRING MY SON TO THE WORLD TREE.

NOW.

FANDRAL, WHAT THE *HELL* IS GOING ON?

YOU'RE ALL NOT JUST *LEAVING*--

APPARENTLY WE *ARE*, STEVEN ROGERS...

HE IS ODIN. HE IS THE ALL-FATHER.

WE ARE ALL HIS CHILDREN.

--IF HE GOES, AND TELLS US TO FOLLOW...

WE FOLLOW.

"FAREWELL, STEVEN ROGERS.

"AND GOOD *LUCK*..."

GATHER AROUND, CHILDREN.

HEIMDALL, 'TIS TIME.

TIME TO GO HOME.

TO ASGARD!

HE KNOWS.

ODIN KNOWS.

ALREADY, FATHER?

OH MY, YES.

IT WAS A VERY OLD, VERY *POWERFUL* MAGIC HE USED TO BIND ME FOR SO LONG.

TO *UNDO* IT WOULDN'T GO UNNOTICED.

YOU SEE, MY GIRL, THERE IS A *PROPHESY.*

IS HE COMING FOR US, THEN? ARE *WE* GOING TO *HIM?*

HAH! IN GOOD TIME, MY EAGER GIRL. IN GOOD TIME.

THE TRUE ALL-FATHER SHALL INDEED COME A'CALLING ON THE *USURPER.*

FIRST WE SHALL MAKE HIM AND EVERYTHING *ELSE* ON THIS WRETCHED TOILET OF A WORLD *FEAR US* AS WE READY.

HOW, MY LORD?

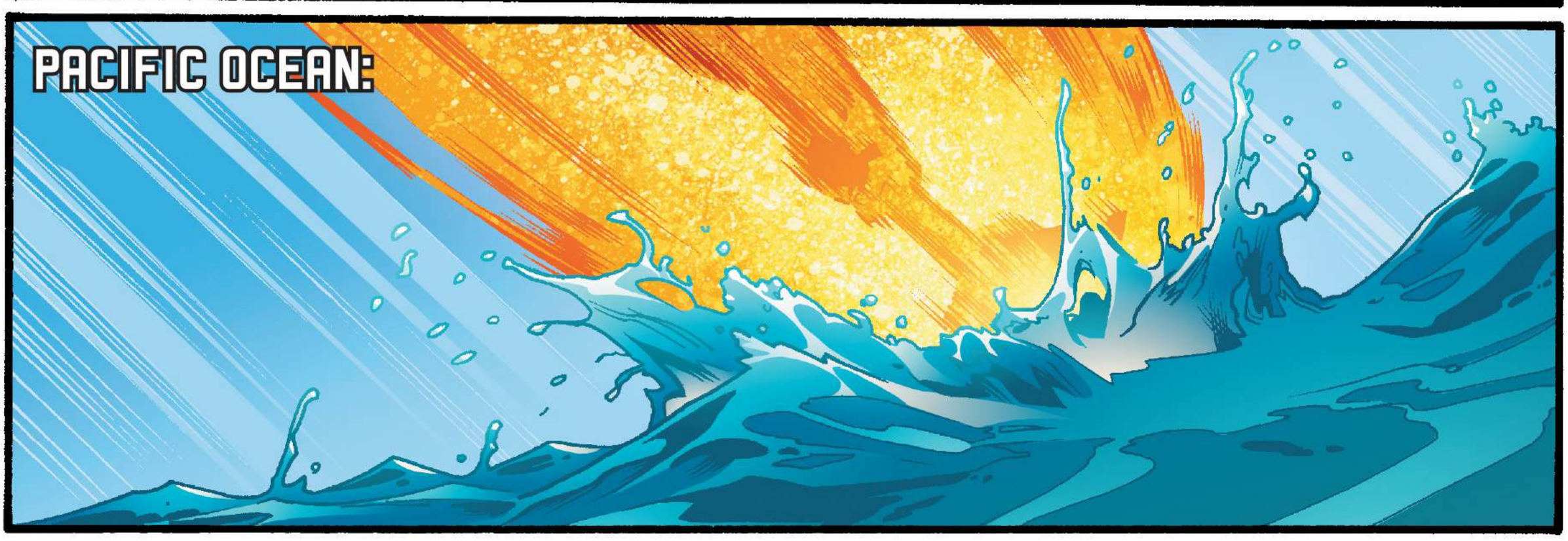
HOW SHALL WE MAKE AN ENTIRE WORLD *TREMBLE* IN YOUR PRESENCE?

HEH.

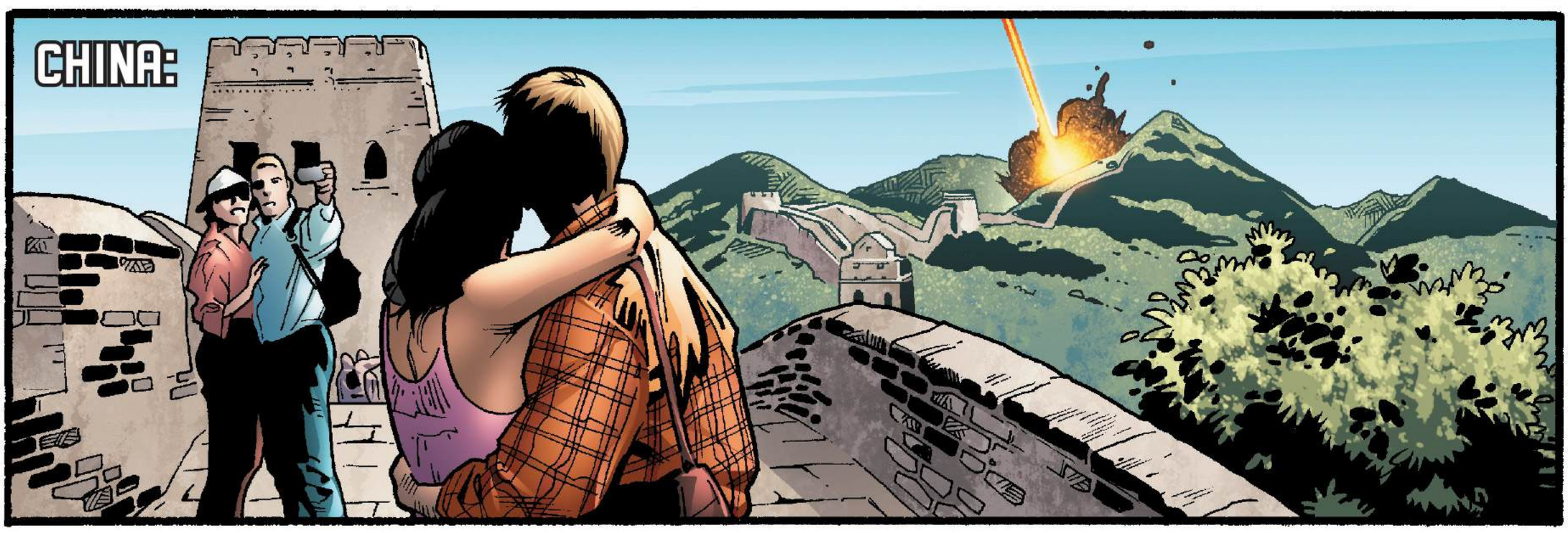
WE WON'T BE DOING IT *ALONE.*

I NOW SUMMON... THE WORTHY.

NORTH AMERICAN AEROSPACE DEFENSE COMMAND
COLORADO:
HOLY--
SIR, WE'VE GOT--FIVE--SIX--*SEVEN*--BOGEYS FLYING IN FROM DEEP SPACE--
--IMPACT *IMMINENT*--
WHAT? WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU...
...MY GOD.
GET ME STEVE ROGERS AND THE PRESIDENT ON THE PHONE.
IN THAT ORDER.


PACIFIC OCEAN:

BRAZIL:


CHINA:

MANHATTAN:

BROXTON:

DADDY, WHAT'S ALL DAT CRAZY *LIGHT?*

EVENTFUL *NIGHT*, LITTLE GUY. *WHICH* LIGHT?

DAT RAINBOW AND ALL DAT CRAZY LIGHT.

I DON'T KNOW, BUDDY.

I JUST DON'T KNOW.

NOW IT'S BEDTIME, OKAY?

WILL YOU TUCK ME IN?

SURE.

481

TUCK YOU IN SAFE AND SOUND.

TCH-CHK

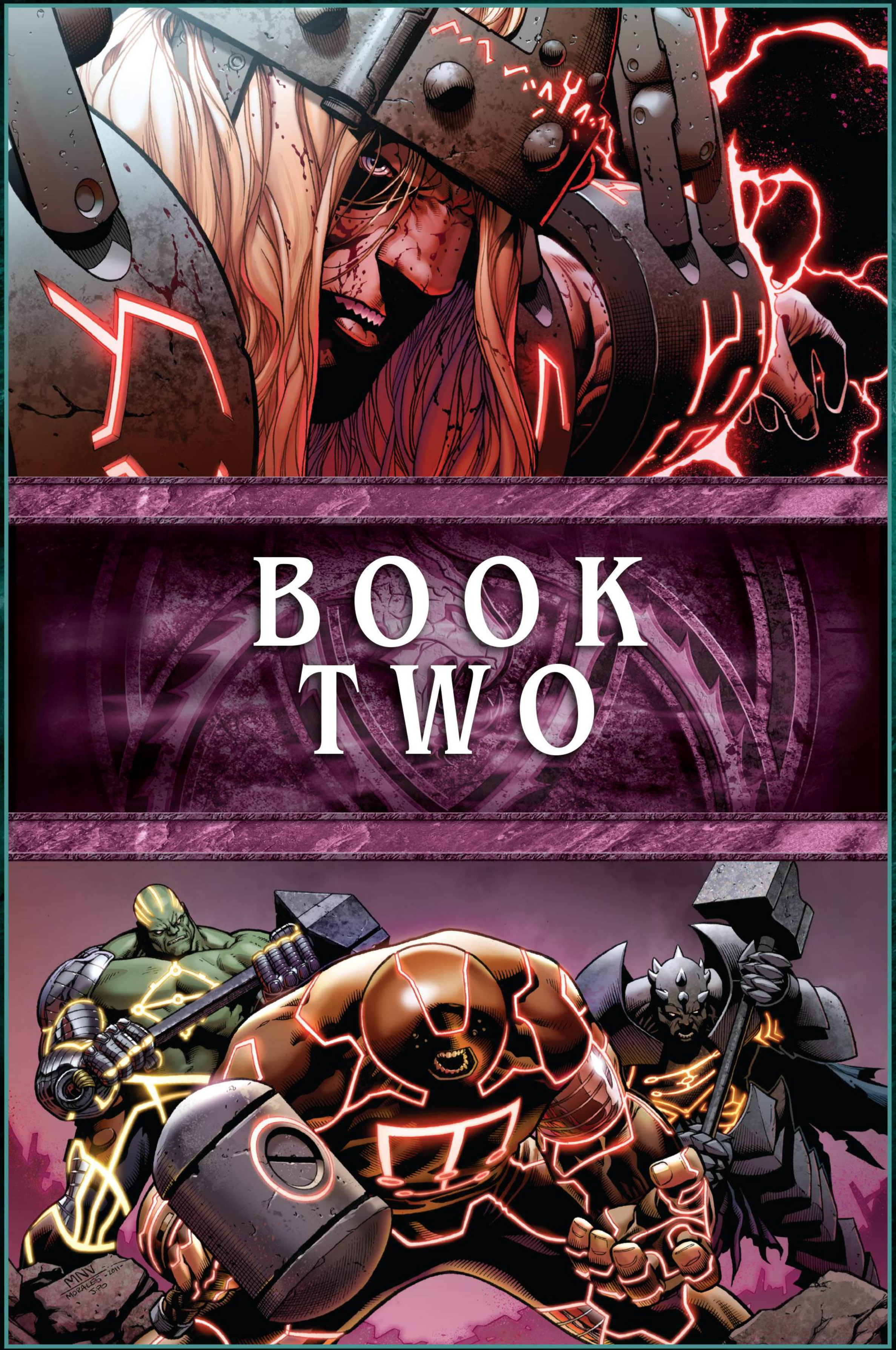
CAP?

CAP, WHAT JUST *HAPPENED?*

THE GODS LEFT US, SPIDER-MAN.

WE'RE ON OUR OWN.

FEAR ITSELF #1 VARIANT BY **STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBADGER** & **LAURA MARTIN**


BOOK
TWO
MNV
MORALES - 2011 -
JPO

FEAR ITSELF 2: THE WORTHY

MATT FRACTION

STUART IMMONEN

WADE VON GRAWBADGER

LAURA MARTIN

CHRIS ELIOPOULOS

LAUREN SANKOVITCH

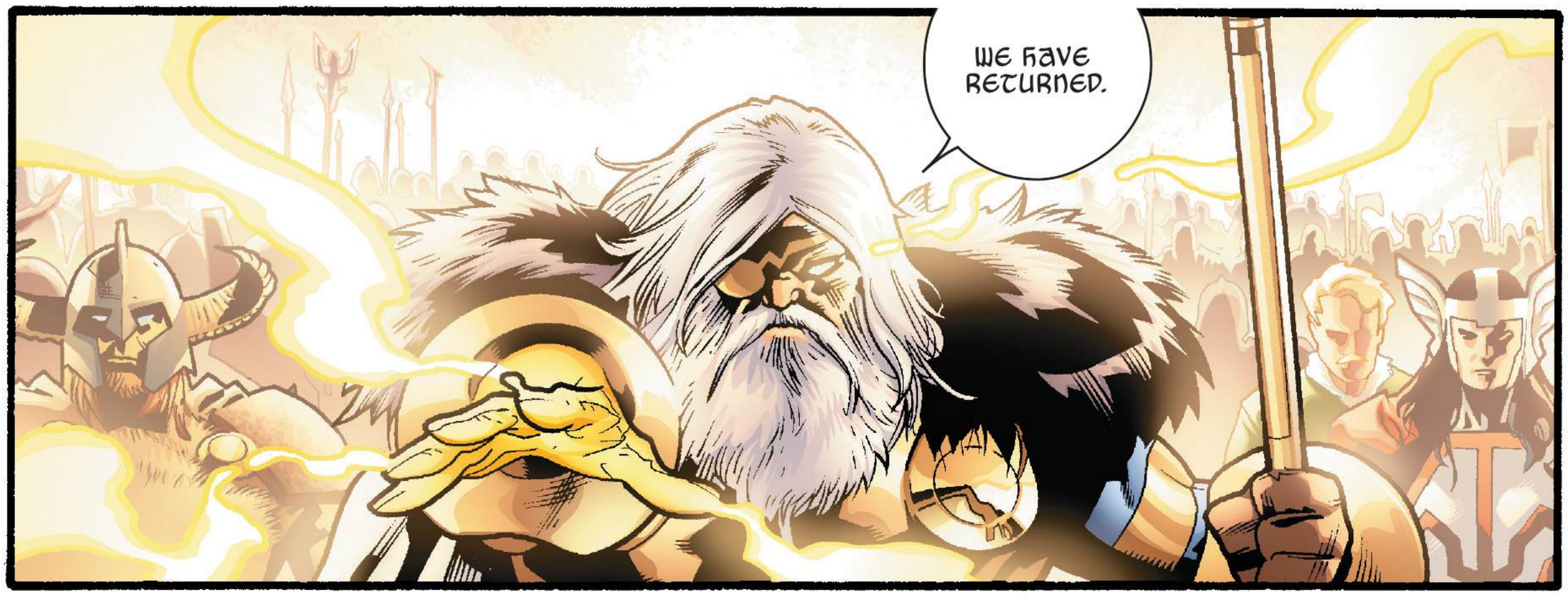
TOM BREVOORT

AXEL ALONSO

JOE QUESADA

DAN BUCKLEY

ALAN FINE



There is *no time* to *waste*, children.

The *Inferno* unleashed upon *Earth* shall soon come burning for *us* as well.

The *Shining City* is no more.

We are a people *of war*. We are a people *at war*.

I do not *like* this, Volstagg.

Aye, Hogun. If there is to be *war*, let *Volstagg the Glorious* lead the charge. But this...

...this feels like *retreat*.

"And what of *Earth*, Hogun?

"If *Asgard* again is to hang in *Asgard-space*...and *Inferno* comes for *Earth*...do we just let it *burn*?"

It feels like retreat because it *is*.

We shall stand for *Earth*.

EARTH... ASGARD...ALL OF THE NINE WORLDS ARE OURS TO PROTECT.

NO MATTER THE THREAT. WE ARE GODS. WE LEAD.

YOU WERE THE ONE THAT TAUGHT ME THAT.

ODIN.

"ALL-FATHER."

YOU, WHO WERE KING OF ASGARD FOR THE BLINK OF AN EYE--

--WHO SAW THAT KINGDOM CRACKED IN HALF, WHOSE REIGN IS MARKED BY BETRAYAL AND SLAUGHTER--

--WOULD TELL ME HOW TO LEAD?

GUARDS.

AS SURELY AS I USE THE ODINSOURCE TO SCULPT THIS WORLD, SO HAVE I CRAFTED A PRISON TO CONTAIN MY SON.

THOR IS TO BE CHAINED AND TAKEN THERE IMMEDIATELY.

WE USED TO BE A PEOPLE OF STEEL AND COURAGE.

NOW WE USE OTHER WORLDS AS SHIELDS.

WE USED TO BE BRAVE!

WORTHY!

'TIS A SHAME WHEN A MAN'S OWN *SON* SPITS IN HIS EYE SO.

CHILDREN, HAD I THE *TIME* TO TELL YOU THE ENTIRE WICKED TALE, I *WOULD*--

--BUT *TIME* IS THE ONE THING THE *ALL-FATHER* CANNOT CONTROL.

KNOW THIS, ASGARDIANS: THE ENGINE OF EVIL THAT HAS BEEN UNLEASHED ON EARTH IS COMING FOR *US* NEXT. AND *EARTH* WILL BE ITS *FUEL.*

ITS *PEOPLE,* DRIVEN TO *SLAVERY* AND *SLAUGHTER.*

BODIES STACKED LIKE *KINDLING.* THE GROUND BLACK WITH BLOOD.

THE SKY BLACK WITH *ASH.*

I *KNOW,* BECAUSE I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE. I'VE *SURVIVED* IT BEFORE.

AND I KNOW HOW TO *SURVIVE* IT AGAIN.

WE ARE AT WAR. FROM *RISE* TO *SET* WE STAND READY FOR *BATTLE.* WE CANNOT *STOP* UNTIL THE LAST OF US FALLS.

AND MANY, *MANY* OF US SHALL FALL INDEED.

THE *SERPENT* RISES, ASGARDIANS.

AND WE SHALL *TRANSFORM OURSELVES* INTO GODS OF *WAR* TO CRUSH HIM BENEATH OUR BOOTS AGAIN.

THE *SERPENT* HAS RETURNED. WE *RISE AGAINST HIM.*

WE SHALL *PURGE MIDGARD* OF HIS PRESENCE.

WE SHALL RAZE THE EARTH ONCE AND FOR ALL!

THE EAST RIVER:
THE RAFT

*FLOATING PRISON HOLDING THE MOST DANGEROUS SUPER-CRIMINALS IN THE WORLD. HEADQUARTERS OF **THE THUNDERBOLTS.***

WRAP IT ***UP,*** JUGGERNAUT. NEW ***SECURITY PROCEDURES.*** YOU KNOW THE RULES.

UNTIL THIS PLACE ***CALMS DOWN,*** EVERYBODY'S SEQUESTERED. THAT MEANS SEVEN MINUTES SOLO ***WORK-OUT TIME.*** AND YOUR SEVEN ARE UP.

YEAH, YEAH.

LEMME JUST GET ONE MORE...

...HEY.

...GUHHH...

TH' HELL WAS THAT?

I...

HUH.

ANYBODY ELSE HEAR THAT?

JUH--

JUGGERNAUT?

ᚺᚠᛊ ᛁᚴᚱᛒᛗᚹ!

KUURTH
BREAKER OF STONE

ᚠᛒᛚᛈᚱ ᛗᛟᚠ

NO--

NO--

--LIVE FROM NEWS CHOPPER NINE COMES THIS EXCLUSIVE FOOTAGE OF CATASTROPHE AT THE RAFT...

UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT THE FACILITY WAS STRUCK EARLIER BY A BOLT OF FIRE...

MATCHING REPORTS SAY SIMILAR IMPACT EVENTS HAVE HAPPENED IN CHINA AND IN THE PACIFIC OCEAN, WHERE RESIDENTS OF AMERICAN SAMOA HAVE SEEN THE SAME THING THIS EVENING...

THE AF-P REPORTS THAT SOMETHING THEY'RE REFERRING TO AS AN "UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT" HAS CRASHED SOMEWHERE IN PARIS...

WE'RE AWAITING CLARIFICATION, OBVIOUSLY, AND INDEPENDENT CONFIRMATION FROM OUR PARIS BUREAU...

AHH...FOLKS, BEAR WITH US, BUT THIS JUST IN FROM NEW YORK--

THIS IS CHAOS.

THAT'S OKAY. WE CAN DO CHAOS. AVENGERS, LISTEN UP:

DIVIDE AND CONQUER. WE'RE GOING TO SPLIT THE WORLD INTO INCIDENT ZONES AND DEPLOY SQUADS TO DEAL.

WE'VE GOT ALL QUESTIONS AND NO ANSWERS BUT THE ONLY THING FOR CERTAIN IS THIS:

PEOPLE WILL BE HURT. SCARED. PANICKING.

KEEP THE PEACE, AVENGERS. AND BE SAFE.

COMMANDER ROGERS? REED RICHARDS ON BEHALF OF THE FUTURE FOUNDATION HERE.

SOMETHING'S HAPPENED IN NEW YORK...

WE BEGAN TRACING AN OBJECT FROM ***DEEP SPACE*** ON A COLLISION COURSE WITH OUR CURRENT LOCATION APPROXIMATELY ***TWENTY-THREE*** MINUTES AGO--

SOMEHOW IT ARRIVED WITHOUT CAUSING AN ***EXTINCTION CATASTROPHE*** ON IMPACT-- SURPRISING, QUITE FRANKLY, MORE THAN HALF OF US.

REED, WHAT'S THE NATURE OF THE OBJECT THAT FELL? THERE ARE REPORTS OF THESE THINGS DROPPING ALL OVER THE **WORLD...**

BILL

--REPORTS FROM THE SCENE SAY THE **FUTURE FOUNDATION** *ARE--*

--PANIC ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE AS--

--E.M.T. AND **POLICE** *TREATING THE* **INJURED--**

--MAYOR JAMESON SAYS NO TRUTH TO RUMORS OF LOOTING--

--TRAPPED ON THE SUBWAY AS RESCUE WORKERS--

--TRADING HALTED ON **WALL STREET--**

IT APPEARS TO BE A ***HAMMER.***

FIRST ***IMPRESSIONS*** AND ANALYSIS HEADING YOUR WAY IN ***FIVE,*** STEVE. AND IF ***BEN*** IS AROUND...

TELL HIM IT'S HIT CLOSE TO ***HOME.***

YANCY ST.

--POLICE URGING CITIZENS TO **REMAIN CALM--**

BRAZIL:

--REPORTS OF ADDITIONAL IMPACTS AROUND THE WORLD--

BRUCE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO *APOLOGIZE* FOR EVERY SINGLE MOMENT OF OUR *MARRIAGE.* STOP LOOKING AT IT IN SUCH EXCRUCIATING *DETAIL.*

BUT THAT'S WHY WE CAME HERE, BETTY.

TO *LOOK AT* THINGS IN DETAIL. TO *FIX* THEM. TO FIX *US.*

WHAT THEY *DID TO YOU...* TO TURN YOU INTO A *HULK* LIKE ME IS-- IS--

--IS *FINE,* BRUCE. TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...

...I KIND OF *LIKE IT.* IT'S *FUN.*

I'VE BEEN TREATED LIKE A DAMN *FABERGÈ EGG* MY WHOLE LIFE--LIKE SOME PRECIOUS, FRAGILE THING AND--

BETTY.

I'VE BEEN *RUNNING FROM* THE *HULK* MOST OF MY *ADULT LIFE* AND IF THERE'S *ONE THING* I KNOW, IT'S THAT IT'S NOT...

...FUN.

HUH.

COULDA FOOLED ME.

WHAT IS IT?

I DON'T KNOW.

HEAR THAT?

HULK-- DON'T--

HULK--

PSHH. PUNY.

H

--SHOT AND KILLED A PASSENGER--

--ALREADY CRITICIZING THEIR POLITICAL OPPONENTS FOR **SLOW REACTIONS** TO THE CATASTROPHE--

--PANIC IN THE STREETS AS--

...I... THAT WAS...

ᚴᚱᛗᚦᛜ B--

--BETTY.

NUL
BREAKER OF WORLDS

HULK, WHAT'S *HAPPENED* TO YOU?

BRUCE?

BUH.

BET. RUN.

RUN!

SOUTH AFRICA:
BARBERTON-GREENSTONE MOUNTAIN BELT

--DESCRIBED AS DANGEROUS--

--TROOP MOVEMENTS ALONG ITS BORDERS AS--

--NO ANSWERS AS OF YET AND CASUALTIES EXPECTED--

GGGR RRRAAAA AHHHH HH!!!

DAMN THING WON'T BUDGE.

ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY BACK TO WORK. TIME IS *DIAMONDS*, AND THE LONGER YOU HICKS *GAWK*, THE LESS DIGGING YOU DO FER US.

LESS *DIGGING*, LESS *DIAMONDS* FOR MY *LADY FRIEND* AND OUR *NEST EGG*...

WAIT, CREEL.

I'M TELLIN' YOU, TITANIA, IT AIN'T COMIN' NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TUG ON IT.

THAT'S WHAT YOUR MOMMA SAID. NOW *MOVE*, REDNECK.

TI, I--

TI. WAIT.

LOOK AT MY HANDS.

TRIED *ABSORBING IT*, BUT IT'S NOT--

THAT THING AIN'T--

SHH.

IT SOUNDS LIKE MUSIC AND CRYING BABIES.

T

SKIRN
BREAKER OF MEN

--TITANIA...?

ᛒᚱᛁᚴᛘᚷᛘ

MY LOVE.

WE HEAD NORTH.

NORTH? I DON'T--

BABY, I DON'T GOT NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE *TALKIN'* ABOUT. DID--DID YOU JUST--

ARE YOU...*IN*... THERE?

NORTH IS WHERE WE'LL FIND *YOUR* HAMMER.

AND NO.

I AM... *NOT*..."STILL *IN HERE.*" AT LEAST... NOT *ALONE.*

AN' WHAT HAMMER? LIKE YOURS? LIKE *THOR'S?*

HOW *FAR* NORTH? LIKE--

MY CHILDREN.

SHUT *UP,* LITTLE MAN--

HE SPEAKS.

WE *MUST NOT FAIL.*

ALL TARGETS ARE VALID. WOMEN-- CHILDREN--

I TOLD YOU ALL I'D RECLAIM YOU FROM THE VEIL OF TEARS, AND SO I HAVE.

--PROPERTY-- ALL OF IT--KILL THEM *ALL. EVERYTHING.*

AND NOW YOU MUST BE READY FOR YOUR *WORK.* GO *FORTH* AND BRING MY TERROR TO THIS PLACE.

--THIS IS *WAR.* THERE ARE NO *CIVILIANS.*

--NO ANSWERS AS OF YET AND CASUALTIES EXPECTED--

--INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN THE NATIONS'S BLOOD BANK, RESULTING IN--

--AUTISM RATES SKYROCKETING--

--FALLING OBJECTS--

--OFFICIALS AT NASA REMAINING SILENT AT THIS HOUR--

PACIFIC OCEAN:

NERKKOD
BREAKER OF OCEANS

SPREAD MY GOSPEL ACROSS THIS TOMB OF A GLOBE WE REMAIN TRAPPED UPON. *PUNISH* AND *TERRIFY* EVERY SINGLE LIVING THING YOU CAN.

YOU MUST NOT *TIRE* AND YOU MUST NOT *FAIL...*

--REPORTING A RUPTURE IN THEIR PACIFIC PIPELINE--

FOR SURELY THE *ASGARDIAN WAR MACHINE* SPRINGS TO LIFE AS WE SPEAK.

REMEMBER HOW FAR THEY WERE WILLING TO GO *LAST TIME.* I PROMISE YOU, THAT WAS ONLY THE *BEGINNING.*

SHOW NO *MERCY* HERE; SHOW NO *PATIENCE* FOR THESE *VERMIN.*

SEE THEM *DRIVEN* BEFORE YOU. BEAT THEM AND MAUL THEM AND *BREAK THEM* ANY WAY YOU KNOW HOW.

DO NOT STOP.

MAKE THEM TREMBLE. MAKE THEM BEG.

FILL THEM WITH *DOUBT* AND *PANIC.*

AND **FEAR...**

--RIOT POLICE ON THE SCENE AS SUPER-CRIMINAL ESCAPEES TAKE--

--REPORTS OF CASUALTIES--

*--INDICATING A TOTAL OF **EIGHT IMPACTS** AROUND THE **WORLD** TONIGHT--*

*--CHINESE OFFICIALS **DENY REPORTS** THAT--*

*--MOBILIZED ITS **NAVY** AS NEIGHBORING GOVERNMENTS DECRIED THE ACT AS--*

--WHERE IS CAPTAIN AMERICA? WHERE ARE THE AVENGERS?

CRUSH THEIR CAPITALS. BRING THEIR LEADERS TO THEIR KNEES. MAKE THEM BEG FOR MERCY.

ALWAYS FEAR.

HAIL THE SERPENT! HAIL THE ALL-FATHER!

OUR TIME IS AT HAND!

GO FORTH IN WAR AND SLAUGHTER!

--CHAOS BREAKS LOOSE AS--

--REPORTS OF AN ATTACK ON WASHINGTON, D.C.--

--RED ALERT RED ALERT THIS IS NOT A DRILL--

ALL POINTS--THIS IS STEVE ROGERS.

--OH, GOD--THEY'RE EVERYWHERE THEY--

911, WHAT'S THE NATURE OF YOUR EMERGEN--

AAAAIIIIIIIIIEEEEE--

SOMETHING'S HAPPENING IN WASHINGTON.

LATE-BREAKING NEWS OF A TERROR EVENT ON THE CAPITOL MALL AS--

WHERE ARE THE SUPER HEROES? WHO'S COMING TO SAVE US--

THE DOME'S BEEN HIT! THE DOME--

THIS ISN'T A DRILL, PEOPLE-- AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

...AVENGERS?

FEAR ITSELF #2 VARIANT BY **STEVE McNIVEN, MARK MORALES** & **JUSTIN PONSOR**

BOOK THREE

SAVE THE PEOPLE *FIRST.*

FEAR ITSELF 3: THE HAMMER THAT FELL ON YANCY STREET

SAVE *EVERYBODY.* UNDERSTAND?

MATT FRACTION

STUART IMMONEN

WADE VON GRAWBADGER

LAURA MARTIN WITH LARRY MOLINAR

CHRIS ELIOPOULOS

WIDOW, FLANK *RIGHT.*

FALCON, LEFT.

AND I'LL SHUT *SIN--*

LAUREN SANKOVITCH

TOM BREVOORT

AXEL ALONSO

JOE QUESADA

DAN BUCKLEY

ALAN FINE

--OR *WHATEVER* THAT THING IS--

--DOWN FOR *GOOD.*

MORE!

MORE!

WASHINGTON D.C.

POLICE

WHO THE *HELL* DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?!

YOU.

I'VE BEEN WAITING MY WHOLE *LIFE* TO KILL YOU.

TAKE A *NUMBER*, LADY.

THINK YOU'RE THE FIRST GIANT GIRL WITH A HAMMER AND NO FACE THAT'S TRIED TO KILL ME?

SAME *CRAP.* DIFFERENT *DAY,* SIN.

I AM SO MUCH *BIGGER* THAN THAT SAD LITTLE GIRL.

WHAT I HAVE PLANNED IS ABOUT *MORE* THAN FINISHING WHAT HER FATHER COULD NOT.

THIS WHOLE WORLD WILL BEG ME FOR MERCY!

ASGARD--SPACE.

I DO WHAT *ODIN* TELLS ME.

WE ARE *ASGARDIANS*, ARE WE NOT? WE *ALL* DO WHAT ODIN TELLS US.

AND THE *ALL-FATHER* DEMANDED HIS PRISONER BE FED. AND, THUS, HERE IS **FOOD.**

I'M FEELING THAT SAME STREAK OF LOYALTY IN *YOU GUYS*, RIGHT? RIGHT. OF COURSE.

ODIN TELLS YOU TO GUARD THE PRISONER, YOU GUARD THE PRISONER. ODIN TELLS ME TO *FEED* THE PRISONER, HERE I AM...

BUT NOBODY TELLS ANYBODY TO *UPDATE* ANYBODY *ELSE.*

SO HERE WE ALL ARE.

SEEMS A *SHAME* TO WASTE FOOD THIS GOOD.

SCREW THE PRISONER-- YOU GUYS HUNGRY?

GUURRRR

SHH.

WELL?

WOULD YOU NOT RECOGNIZE A JAILBREAK WHEN YOU SEE ONE?

TIME IS OF THE *ESSENCE*, BROTHER. ASGARD NEEDS HER THUNDER GOD.

THE *OLD MAN* HAS GONE MAD AND *EARTH* IS *BURNING*...

EARTH
MISSOURI:

DUBAI
FIRST INTERNATIONAL CREDIT UNION OF DUBAI:

GREITHOTH
BREAKER OF WILLS

BRAZIL:

INCOMING!

RRROOOOOAAAARRRGGGGG!

TAKE--

--TAKE THEM--

--HURRY--

--WUHFF--

ᛉᚱᛉ ᛊᚠᛈᚠᚹ ᛊᚹᚢᛇ

GRRRRRR

AAAAHHHH!

--BRUCE?

--BRUCE--

--BRUCE, *PLEASE*--

HHNN.

HNN. HNN.

IT'S *ME*, BRUCE. *BETTY.*

SAY IT, BRUCE. SAY--

GGRA AAAAH HH--

SPIDER-WOMAN TO *AVENGERS.*

WE'VE MADE *CONTACT* WITH THE *ENTITY*... *ANNNNNND* IT KIND OF LOOKS LIKE THE *HULK.*

--FROM BRAZIL, WHERE THESE IMAGES ARE COMING TO US LIVE AS THE AVENGERS ARE ON-SITE TO DEAL WITH WHAT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS A RAMPAGE--

BREAKING NEWS

LIVE

--LOWER EAST SIDE, WHERE WHAT IS BEING CALLED A "METEORITE OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN" STRUCK IN THE PRE-DAWN HOURS--

I DUNNO, GUY.

I DON' THINK YER GONNA PULL DIS ONE OFF.

I MEAN, YOUSE GUYS ARE ALREADY RUNNIN' LIGHT, WHAT WITH THE HUMAN TORCH DYIN' AN' ALL.

SHUT UP, GUY.

AN' YOU GOT ALL DESE THINGS GOIN' WRONG ALL OVER THE WORLD. I DON' THINK YOU'RE GONNA DO IT.

GREAT.

SERIOUSLY. NOT GONNA SAVE US THIS TIME.

OKAY.

BEN?

WE'D LIKE YOU TO TRY *MOVING IT* NOW.

YEAH, REED, *ANYTHING* TO GET AWAY FROM THIS JERK.

HEY, *YOU'RE* THE JERK THAT COULDN'T SAVE THE HUMAN TORCH! YOU SUCK, GRIMM!

THINKING ABOUT TRYING OUT A LITTLE *METHOD LIFTING.*

S'IT OKAY IF I PRETEND IT'S THAT GUY'S NECK?

BEN, WAIT, NOT SO--

WHAT'S THE--

AAH.

BEN? BEN, I--

ᚦᛉᛚ ᛞᚺᛇᛇ ᚠᚺᚱ!

ANGRIR
BREAKER
OF SOULS

YANG ST
POLICE
THRU TRUCK
DIE!

THIS IS A *DISASTER*, THOR. A WORLD-ENDING... CATASTROPHIC...

...IT'S DISASTROUS. WE HAVE TO *STOP* HIM.

WHAT *IS* ALL THIS?

IT'S ASGARD. ODIN REBUILT THE ENTIRE *WORLD* AS A *WAR ENGINE*...

...AND HE'S POINTING IT AT *MIDGARD*. TO FIGHT THE SERPENT, EARTH MUST BE *RAZED*.

THE SERPENT'S *FOLLOWERS* MAKE HIM STRONG--SO WE ARE TO *CULL MANKIND* BEFORE THE SERPENT GETS ANY *STRONGER*.

ASGARD IS TO *SLAUGHTER* MAN? WHO IS THIS *SERPENT?*

ODIN'S LONG KEPT HIS OWN COUNCIL, BUT *MURDERING* AN ENTIRE *WORLD* IS OUTRAGEOUS EVEN FOR HIM....

SURELY NOT *ALL* OF OUR BRETHREN ARE IN LOCKSTEP WITH HIS WISHES...

NO.

NOT ALL.

THOR...!

SIF-- WE NEED TO GET BACK TO *EARTH*.

WE CANNOT STOP ODIN FROM MAKING WAR, BUT WE CAN SURELY *STAND* WITH MANKIND WHILE--

THOR...

THERE IS NO *GOING* ANYWHERE.

ASGARD IS CLOSED OFF FROM THE *REALMS* ON ORDER OF *ODIN*.

WE HAVE ALLIES WHO HAVE AGREED TO HELP ***SPIRIT YOU*** FROM HERE TO MIDGARD WITH AS MUCH STEALTH AS WE CAN MUSTER.

SO THAT YOU MAY HELP MAN MAKE ***READY.*** OR ***EVACUATE.*** BUT WE... WE CAN GO ***THIS FAR*** AND NO FURTHER.

VOLSTAGG WOULD GO FURTHER.

BUT YOU WON'T.

NO, I WON'T.

EVERY ***MOMENT*** YOU REMAIN IS A DANGER. SURELY ***HEIMDALL'S ALL-SIGHT*** WILL DETECT YOUR PRESENCE.

COME NOW, THUNDER GOD. LET SWIFT ***HERMOD*** RACE YOU AWAY BEFORE--

BEFORE WHAT?

I AM ***DISAPPOINTED*** IN YOU ALL...BUT UNSURPRISED ALL THE SAME.

WELL, BOY? WHAT ***NOW?*** HOW DO WE ***PROCEED*** FROM HERE?

ANOTHER ***THRASHING?*** ANOTHER ***EMBARRASSMENT?*** OR WILL YOU--FOR ONCE IN YOUR INFERNAL LIFE--

--ACCEPT THAT ***PERHAPS*** THERE ARE THINGS EVEN ***YOU*** DO ***NOT*** KNOW AND ***STAND AT MY SIDE?***

WHAT ARE YOU ***AFRAID OF,*** OLD MAN? THAT YOU WOULD LAY ***WASTE*** TO AN ENTIRE ***PEOPLE?***

EDUCATE ME.

I HAVE TRIED YOUR WHOLE ***LIFE*** TO DO JUST THAT.

I AM TRYING TO ***ESCAPE A PROPHECY,*** BOY.

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW WILL ***KILL*** YOU.

SO I AM TO LET EARTH FALL INSTEAD? *NO.*

LET ME *GO* AND *STAND* FOR MIDGARD. AGAINST YOU AND ALL MANNER OF HEL YOU THINK YOU CAN BRING.

YOU SHALL HAVE UNTIL THE SHADOW OF THE SERPENT FALLS ACROSS THE WORLD TREE.

AND BOY-- BELIEVE ME-- AFTER THAT, WHAT COMES *IS INEVITABLE.*

GO COUNT YOURSELF AMONG THE *SLAUGHTERED*, THEN, DAMN YOUR HONOR AND DAMN YOUR PRIDE.

GGK KKAA AAA--

HERE. YOU'LL *NEED* THIS.

YOU CAN'T SAY YOUR FATHER NEVER *GAVE YOU* ANYTHING.

THE QUINCARRIER.
EN ROUTE TO WASHINGTON D.C.

WE HAVE TOO MANY DAMNED *QUESTION MARKS.*

WHO IS DOING THIS? WHO THE HELL COULD PULL *OFF* COORDINATED ATTACKS ON THIS SCALE?

WE'RE CHASING OUR *TAILS* ABOUT WHATEVER THESE *HAMMERS* ARE THAT FELL FROM THE SKIES...*THOR* IS *GONE...*

WE'RE BLIND. *REACTING* LIKE FOOLS... AND NOW THEY'VE HIT OUR *CAPITAL.*

LIVE NYC

SIR, WE...YOU'RE MASTERMINDING A GLOBAL RESPONSE TO A CATACLYSM OF UNKNOWN SIZE AND ESCALATING *INTENSITY.* WE--

STEVE, THIS IS THE *JOB* NOW. THIS IS WHAT YOU *WANTED.* AND WHAT YOU WANTED MEANS YOU'RE ON *THIS* SIDE OF THE BATTLEFIELD SOMETIMES.

35,000 FEET ABOVE THE ACTION ISN'T WHERE I SHOULD BE. I'M NOT *BRASS...*

I'M A SOLDIER.

HILL, YOU'VE GOT THE HELM.

STEVE...?

OUR *CAPITAL,* SHARON.

GOING OUT FOR SOME *AIR.*

"MIGHT BE A WHILE..."

TREMBLE! KNEEL!

BOW DOWN IN HOMAGE TO THE TRUE ALL-FATHER!

BBBBLUCKKKYYYY??

BBBLUCKY?

YEAH.

CAN YOU HEAR ME?

YEAH.

WE NEED TO *FALL BACK.* IMMEDIATE VICINITY IS *EVACUATED,* BUT WE NEED TO--

REGROUP, CAP, AND *FAST.* GET OUR FOOTING AGAIN AND--

TO WHERE? WITH *WHAT?*

IT'S HERE. IT'S *NOW.* THERE'S NO *TOMORROW* IF WE DON'T HOLD THE LINE.

WHAT, YOU WANT TO GROW OLD AND *RETIRE?*

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

HAH.

GOOD.

HEY, UGLY!

--GG WWRUF FF--

STAY DOWN.

YUH.

YOU'LL *PAY* FOR THAT.

YOU'LL ALL PAY!!

YOU DARE STRIKE SKADI, FIRST AVATAR OF THE SERPENT?

HE IS THE LORD OF ALL TERROR! THE KILLER OF THE GOD OF STORMS!

I AM FEAR MADE FLESH!

AND YOU--

--WILL ALL--

--PAY!!

GGRR RAAAA AAA-!

AA AAAAAA AAA--!

PSSHT.

MY FATHER WAS A *CLOWN.*

THE SERPENT IS COMING.

TELL THEM. TELL THEM *ALL.*

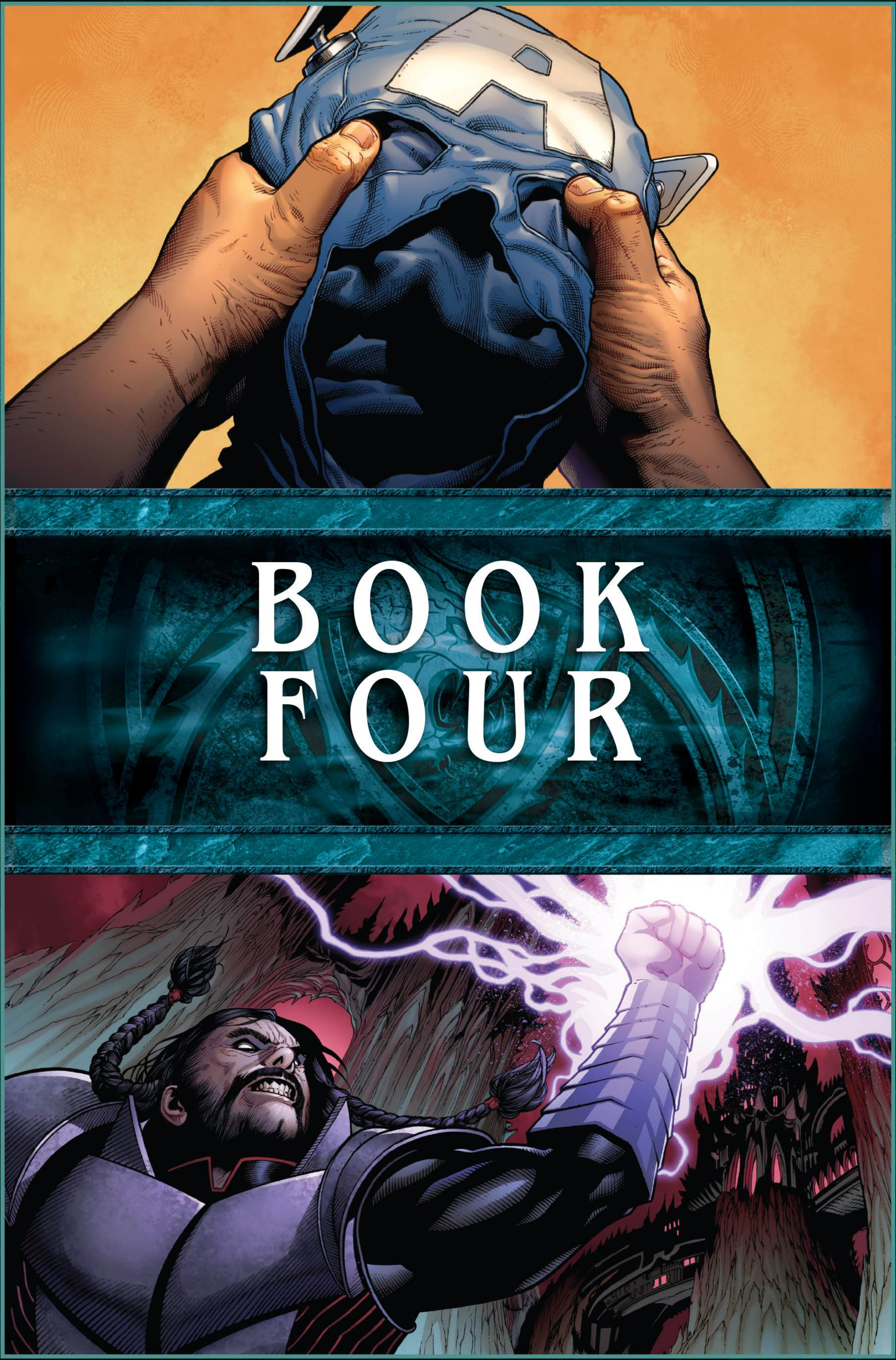
IT WON'T *HELP.*

NO--

NO!!

SUH.
SERPENT.
THE SERPENT IS HERE. TUH--
TELL *THOR.* CAP. *EVERYBODY.*
THE *SERPENT.* YOU--YOU GOTTA--
SAVE 'EM, NAT.
GOTTA SAVE

FEAR ITSELF #2 VARIANT BY **STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBADGER** & **LAURA MARTIN**



BOOK FOUR

FEAR ITSELF 4: WORLDS ON FIRE

MATT FRACTION

STUART IMMONEN

WADE VON GRAWBADGER

LAURA MARTIN

CHRIS ELIOPOULOS

LAUREN SANKOVITCH

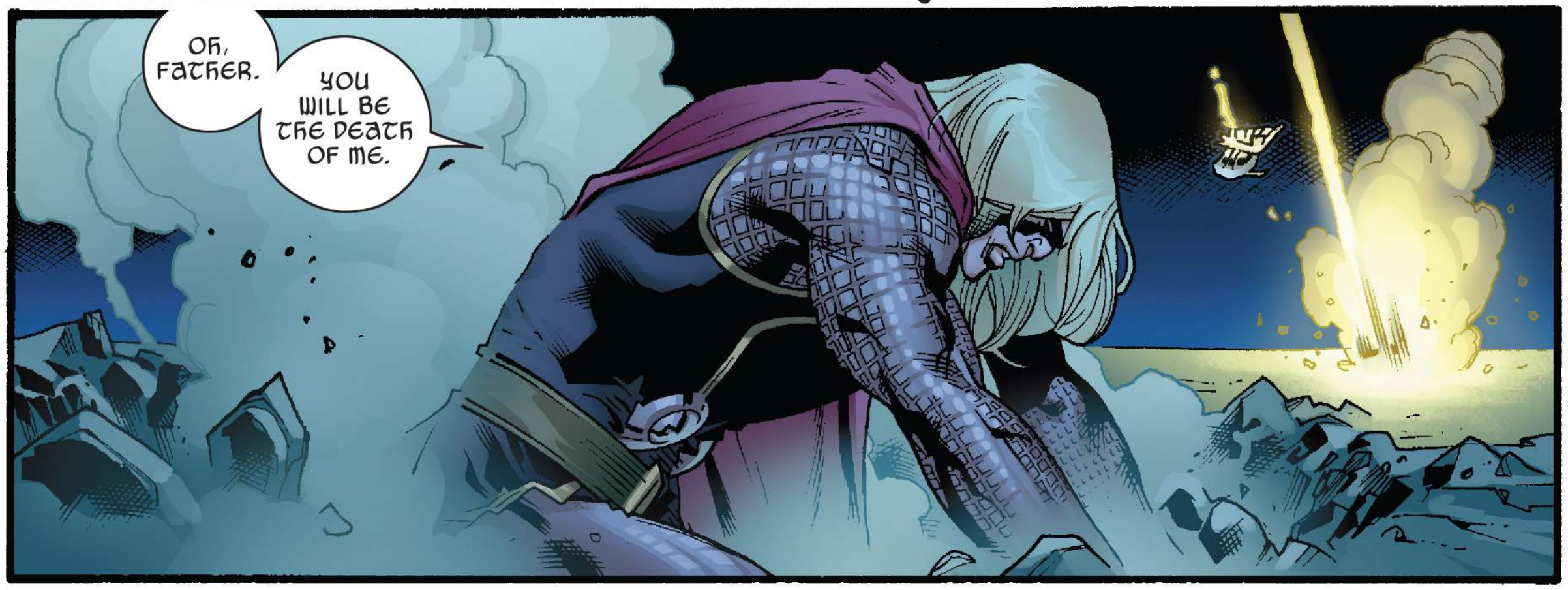
TOM BREVOORT

AXEL ALONSO

JOE QUESADA

DAN BUCKLEY

ALAN FINE



HALT!

SAID *HALT*, DAMMIT--!

GREETING VISITORS BY *BARKING ORDERS* AND *WAVING* GUNS?

BROXTON, WHAT HAS *HAPPENED* TO YOU...?

Y'ALL GOT ANY IDEA WHAT'S GOING ON *DOWN HERE?* YOU GOT A *GOOD VIEW* FROM YOUR MAGIC FLOATING CASTLE, BIG MAN?

SHUT UP, RICK.

SIR--WHAT WE'RE SAYING-- THERE'S BEEN *RIOTS* AND *LOOTING* AND-- AND PEOPLE GOING *CRAZY* AND--

WE'RE SAYING *MOVE ON* SO WE CAN GET TO *TAKING CARE* OF OUR OWN. DON'T NEED YA. DON'T *WANT* YA.

GO BLOW SOMEONE ELSE UP.

SO BE IT.

FARE THEE *WELL*, BROXTON.

MORE!

I NEED *MORE*, DAMN YOU ALL!

LET THEM THROW THEIR SMALL FISTS AT YOU!

LET THEM RALLY AND RAISE ARMS *AGAINST* YOU!

GRIND THEM INTO BLOOD AND MUD!

KILL THEM *ALL!*

MAKE THE CHILDREN *WATCH!*

MERCY IS FOR THE *MERCIFUL*, AND YOU, MY DARLINGS, MY AGENTS, MY UNHOLY REFLECTIONS, ARE FAR FROM *THAT!*

GUUHHH!

MORE! *MORE!*

AND BEFORE LONG THEY'LL DO YOUR WORK *FOR YOU.*

SAN FRANCISCO

PARIS

ILLINOIS

I AM BEING WELL-FED, MY CHILDREN, BUT I NEED *MORE.*

SOON I'LL BE STRONG ENOUGH--

--READY ENOUGH--

--FOR *HIM...* *ODIN.*

PUT YOUR BACKS INTO IT, ASGARD.

THOUGH YOUR MUSCLES TREMBLE AND YOUR JOINTS MAY ACHE.

WE ENDEAVOR NOT SIMPLY TO DESTROY THE SERPENT BUT AN ENTIRE WORLD MADE SICK BY HIM.

OURS IS A WAR OF MERCY.

THE SERPENT IS MALEVOLENCE GIVEN FORM; HE IS TERROR GIVEN SHAPE.

HE SPREADS LIKE A PSYCHIC CANCER, INFLICTING AND INFECTING THE FEEBLE MIND OF MAN.

CHINA

NONE OF YOU KNOWS WHAT IT TOOK FOR ME TO BEAT HIM ONCE.

IT WAS... GRIM.

HIS AVATARS CARRY WITH THEM WEAPONS MORE MIGHTY THAN ANY FOUND ON EARTH.

CENTRAL AMERICA, NORTHBOUND

AND THEY ARE DRIVEN BY DIRE PURPOSES WE CANNOT FATHOM BEYOND THE MOST SIMPLE:

SPREAD FEAR! SPREAD TERROR!

THE SERPENT HAS NO INTEREST IN WAR--HIS ONLY STRATEGY IS SLAUGHTER.

AND SLAUGHTER HE SHALL, AGAIN AND AGAIN.

AND THE MINDS OF MEN WILL WARP AND BREAK.

THEIR VERY FAITHS WILL SHATTER...

THE EAST COAST, NEAR MANHATTAN

"AND THEIR *ICONS* WILL *FALL*.."

YOU DESERVED *BETTER*, KID...

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING.

SINCE WHEN DOES THE RED SKULL KILL CAPTAIN AMERICA?

THAT *THING* WASN'T THE *RED SKULL. IT* WAS-- IT WAS SOME *ASGARDIAN* THING, SOME KIND OF *MONSTER*, OR--

BUCKY CALLED IT *THE SERPENT.*

WHO IS THE SERPENT? WHAT DID HE MEAN?

STARK? INTERNATIONAL SMART GUY? YOU GOT ANYTHING ON THAT ONE?

WHAT ABOUT *YOU*, NICHOLAS *MISTER MYSTERIOUS* FURY? WHAT HAVE ALL YOUR *SECRET AGENTS* TOLD YOU ABOUT THIS UNHOLY *MONSTER* THAT'S KILLING US ALL?

ODIN.

IT MEANS *ODIN'S WAR* IS COMING HERE.

WHATEVER THE *SERPENT* IS, ODIN KNOWS ABOUT IT--AND *HAS KNOWN* FOR A LONG TIME. AND THAT NO ONE *ELSE* KNOWS BODES POORLY FOR US ALL.

WELCOME *BACK*, BIG MAN.

THE SERPENT STRIKES AT MAN, AND MAN'S FEAR OF HIM MAKES HIM STRONGER.

THUS ODIN SEEKS TO CUT OFF THE SERPENT'S *INFLUENCE.*

HE'S GONNA WIPE US OUT.

LOSE SOME FINGERS TO SAVE A *HAND.*

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

THIS SHOULD NOT BE MAN'S WAR TO *WAGE.*

TOO LATE, SPACE VIKING.

YOU SMELL OF *GARBAGE* AND *ROTTEN FISH.*

THREW UP INSIDE THE SUIT.

PARIS WAS A NIGHTMARE.

THIS WHOLE DAMN *PLANET* IS A NIGHTMARE, STARK. WE NEED *YOU THREE* OUT THERE FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT, DAMMIT.

YOU TWO NEED TO GO *GET* HIM...

"WE NEED CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE AVENGERS..."

...STEVE?

I'M READY.

LET'S GO.

WHERE ARE WE AT?

THE RED SKULL, JUGGERNAUT, ABSORBING MAN, TITANIA, ATTUMA, GREY GARGOYLE, HULK AND THE THING HAVE...

CHANGED. THEY'VE RECEIVED ENCHANTED WEAPONRY AND ARE RAMPAGING ALL ACROSS THE GLOBE.

THEN WE NEED COUNTER WEAPONS. THAT'S YOUR DEPARTMENT. THOR?

WE'RE FACING A BEING... VERY MUCH LIKE MY FATHER... KNOWN AS THE SERPENT. HE FEEDS ON FEAR--HENCE HIS AGENTS INFLICTING SENSELESS MADNESS-- AND SEEKS TO USURP ODIN.

ODIN IS READYING THE WAR FORCES OF ASGARD TO CULL MANKIND AND CUT OFF THE SERPENT'S SOURCE OF POWER BEFORE THEIR FINAL BATTLE.

THERE'S... SOMETHING ELSE, STEVEN.

THERE'S A PROPHECY-- A SERPENT I AM DESTINED TO SLAUGHTER AT THE PRICE OF MY OWN LIFE. I AM TO TAKE NINE STEPS AND FALL.

CAPTAIN--I AM UNAFRAID. LET NO MORE OF YOUR BRAVEST AND FINEST LIKE BARNES DIE IN AN ASGARDIAN'S WAR. I WILL FIGHT AND I WILL DIE FOR MIDGARD.

UNACCEPTABLE.

THOR, IF THIS THING HAS A CONNECTION TO ODIN, THEN MAYBE YOU CAN SPEAK TO HIM ON HIS OWN LEVEL. AND IF HE KNOWS WHAT YOU KNOW...

...THEN HE'LL BE AFRAID OF YOU.

COMMANDER!

YOU'RE GONNA WANT TO SEE THIS.

SALMON ARM, BRITISH COLUMBIA
CANADA:

ICE FUEL

AAAAAAAAA--!

"LET NO CORNER OF THIS *SEWER* OF A WORLD BE FREE OF YOUR *VIOLENCE* AND YOUR *HATRED!*"

YES--
YES! MORE!
MORE!

DAHH--

DAD!

DAAAAAD!!

YES--
THERE! PERFECT!
MY KINGDOM OF FEAR, I COMMAND YOU--

-AWAKEN!!

YES!

HAH.

MY PALACE HAS ARISEN.

"THIS WORLD IS MINE NOW."

WE...

ARE GONNA NEED A BIGGER BOAT.

YOU HAVE YOUR *ASSIGNMENTS.*

"NOW LET'S GET OUT THERE AND *SAVE THE WORLD...!*"

ANTARCTICA

OKLAHOMA

MANHATTAN

MASTER. A VISITOR.

EXCELLENT, SEER. SEND OUT A *WELCOMING PARTY...*

"...LET'S SEE WHAT THE BOY IS *MADE OF.*"

YOU. *SICKNESS* RADIATES OFF OF YOU IN WAVES.

WHAT'D I *MISS*, AVENGERS?

END OF THE WORLD. SAMO-SAMO.

YEAH, KEEP *ON* FLYIN'.

ODIIIIN!

YOU LIKE YOUR *EFFIGIES*, YEAH?

YOU *LIKE IT* WHEN *PUNY HUMANS* LIKE US DROP TO OUR KNEES AND BEG FOR YOUR ATTENTION?

ALL RIGHT, YOU *COWARD*-- IF THAT'S THE COST OF AN *AUDIENCE* WITH YOU, *ALL RIGHT!*

I'M A SCIENTIST.

I DON'T EVEN BELIEVE IN YOU.

HERE'S A *SACRIFICE*, YOU CYCLOPTIC BULLY.

I GAVE YOU MY *DIGNITY*-- MY *INTEGRITY*-- AND NOW I'M GIVING YOU THE ONLY DAMN THING I HAVE THAT'S OF ANY *VALUE*.

DÉMON dans une BOUTEILLE

MERLOT

COME ON--

--COME ON--

ENOUGH.

SO.

YOU SHOW YOURSELF AT LAST.

COULD THIS BE REAL?

COULD THIS TRULY BE HAPPENING TO ME?

DO I *REALLY* GET TO KILL CAPTAIN AMERICA *TWICE?*

STARK.

I'M LISTENING...

AVENGERS! ASSEMBLE!

OH, CAPTAIN! MY CAPTAIN!

HELLO, THOR.

"NINE PACES FARES THE SON OF ODIN. AND, SLAIN BY THE SERPENT, FEARLESS HE SINKS." YOU. SERPENT.

ME, YES; AND THAT IS INDEED THE ***PROPHECY*** THAT BINDS US. KNOW THIS, NEPHEW: I AM THE ***FIRST*** AND ***RIGHTFUL*** KING OF ***ASGARD.***

MY BROTHER, ***ODIN THE USURPER,*** TOOK WHAT WAS ***RIGHTFULLY MINE*** AND REWROTE THE ENTIRE ***WORLD*** IN HIS OWN IMAGE.

FOR HIS SINS, THE MAGIC THAT ***BOUND ME*** CRAFTED THAT PROPHECY. YOU KILL ME--YOU DIE NEXT--AND ***ODIN SUFFERS.***

MY OWN ***BROTHER,*** THOR. CAN YOU ***IMAGINE?***

BETTER STILL-- IMAGINE ***THIS!***

WHAT ELSE HAS ODIN NOT ***TOLD YOU?***

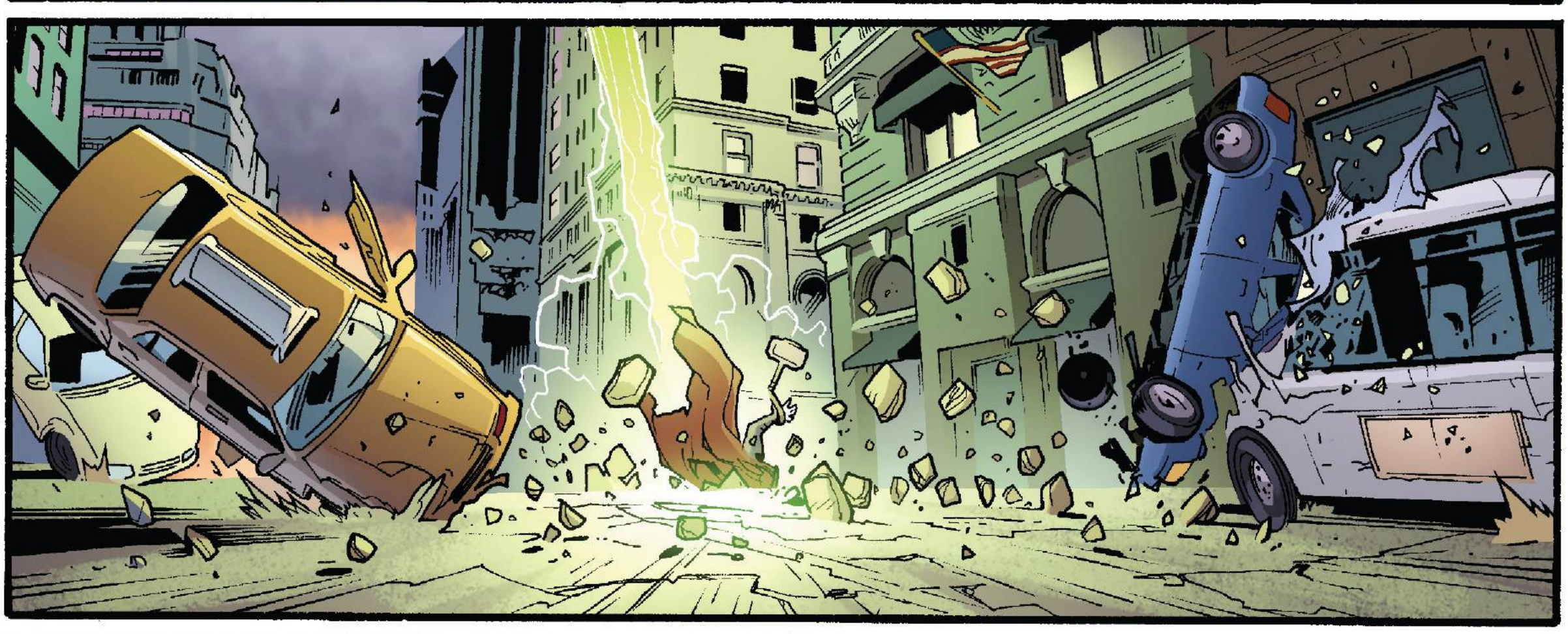
IF WE FIGHT, WE DIE. YET IF WE WORK ***TOGETHER,*** WE CAN MAKE ***ODIN PAY*** FOR WHAT HE HAS DONE TO ***BOTH*** OF US.

WHAT ***PRICE*** COULD ODIN ***POSSIBLY*** PAY TO MAKE UP FOR A ***LIFETIME*** OF LIES?

NO, THE ONLY ONE WHO WILL BE ***PAYING*** TODAY IS ***YOU,*** MONSTER.

NOT TODAY, LITTLE BOY.

NOT TODAY. **BEGONE!**



THAT HAS GOTTEN OLD.
WHAT INDIGNITY SHALL I BE MADE TO SUFFER NEXT?

AHH.
OF COURSE...
...THE SERPENT'S TWO GREATEST FEAR-MONGERS. WELL...

DO I LOOK AFRAID TO YOU?

BOOK FIVE

FEAR ITSELF 5: BRAWL

MATT FRACTION STUART IMMONEN

WADE VON GRAWBADGER

LAURA MARTIN w/ MILLA & MOLINAR

CHRIS ELIOPOULOS

LAUREN SANKOVITCH

TOM BREVOORT

AXEL ALONSO

JOE QUESADA

DAN BUCKLEY

ALAN FINE

ᚹᛁᛒᚷᚹ!

ᛃᚠᚳᛞ!

WWULLRRF--

HAMMER--

--TO ME.

ᛗᛇᚠᛗᚹ!

THEY'RE *KILLING HIM,* YOU KNOW.

WHO COULD KILL *THOR?*

NUL, BREAKER OF *WORLDS. ANGRIR,* BREAKER OF *SOULS.*

THAT SOUND OF *THUNDER* YOU HEAR IN THE DISTANCE...

...THAT ISN'T THE *ODINSON.*

THAT'S THE SOUND OF THE *ODINSON* BEING *BROKEN* BY THE WORTHY.

YOU'RE NEXT.

I KILLED THAT MANNISH-BOY OF YOURS. I'LL KILL YOU NEXT.

YOUR *DAD* COULDN'T.

RECKON YOU CAN'T, *EITHER.*

FALLEN ASGARD

ODIN...

YOU... YOU'RE...

I CAN'T *EXPRESS* TO YOU HOW DISAPPOINTED I AM THAT YOU ACTUALLY SHOWED UP.

YOU ARE A WAR-BROTHER OF MY *BOY*, STARK, AND THUS I GRANT YOU *SPECIAL DISPENSATION.*

BUT DON'T *PUSH* IT.

MY WORD. WELL.

I SURELY WOULD *HATE* TO WASTE THE TIME OF SUCH A *BENEVOLENT* PRESENCE AS YOURSELF. SO, PLEASE, SIR--

--ALLOW ME TO GET STRAIGHT TO MY POINT AND SUGGEST THAT--

RRAHHH!!

THIS ISN'T *FAIR!*

YOU'RE LEADING US ALL TO *SLAUGHTER* WITH NO *CHANCE* TO *FIGHT BACK.*

WE'LL FIGHT. WE'LL *DIE.* EVERY LAST ONE OF US.

BUT AT LEAST LET US DO IT ON OUR *FEET.*

STARK, I HAVE *SEEN THIS* HAPPEN SINCE BEFORE THE YEARS HAD *NAMES.* *ESPECIALLY* WITH MEN OF *SCIENCE.* EVERYONE FINDS THEIR *FAITH* IN THE DARK.

DESPERATE MEN ON THE EVE OF BATTLE *PETITIONING THEIR GOD* FOR *MERCY* OR A *MIRACLE* OR--

THE *HELL* WITH THAT!

I DON'T *BELIEVE* IN MIRACLES AND I COULDN'T CARE *LESS* ABOUT YOUR *MERCY.*

I WANT *WEAPONS.*

YOUR *BAD GUY* DROPPED *EIGHT* OF 'EM DOWN ON OUR HEADS.

KNOW WHAT I DO BEFORE A BIG BATTLE, YOU BELLOWING ONE-EYED *BEARD,* YOU?

I MAKE WEAPONS.

I MAKE REALLY. *GREAT.* WEAPONS.

AND I LEFT A LOT OF FRIENDS OUT THERE TO FIGHT AND *DIE* WHILE I DO IT, SO I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU MAKE YOUR DECISION QUICKLY.

I DON'T NEED YOUR *HELP.*

I *WANT* YOUR *WORKSHOP.*

KEFF

NGG.

AH.

BFPBB!

WAIT--

--BENJAMIN, DON'T--

MJOLNIR.

you were always a giant pain in the ass.

but you?

and *him* I liked.

...

GGR RRAAA AHHH!
AND NOW!
YOU!
DIE!

I HOPE IT *HURT.*

JERK.

ᚹᛒᚢᛊ.

ᛉᚲᛃᛒᛗ.

CAN'T BELIEVE I'M LISTENING TO YOUR STUPID *LOSER* PLAN, YOU *LOSER*--

SHUT *UP*, VAL...

GGUUHH.

ᚲᚢᚺ.

ᛊᛒᛋᚠᛗᚹ.

KIDS.

UNCLE BEN. DON'T TALK. YOU'RE REAL HURT.

SSS... S'OKAY, KIDDO.

S'BEEN COMIN' A LONG TIME. DON' BE SAD.

I DESERVE IT AFTER...AFTER EV'THING.

I... D'SERVE IT *ALL...*

BEG FOR IT.

JUST *ONCE.* BEG FOR YOUR LIFE.

GO TO HELL.

I'VE *BEEN* TO HELL.

YOU WOULDN'T LIKE IT THERE--

AAH--

ALL RIGHT... S'OKAY...

...AH.

FATHER! YOU HAVE RISEN!

THIS! WORLD! IS!

MINE!

BOW, MAGGOTS!

BOW DOWN AND PRAY FOR MY MERCY!

DAUGHTER.

YOU'VE DONE SUCH *EXCELLENT* WORK...

ARISE, GIRL.

ARISE AND *REJOICE.*

TODAY IS THE DAY YOU *DIE.* TODAY IS THE DAY YOUR *WORLD* DIES, YOU STUPID LITTLE MAN.

HEY, *BEARDO--*

--SUCK IT!

I'LL BE DAMNED.

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE.

CHILDREN.

DON'T LET THE HAMMER HIT THE--

YOU ARE *ALL CHILDREN.*

WITH YOUR CHILDREN'S *GAMES.*

Y'KNOW WHAT I LOVED PLAYING WHEN I WAS A KID?

CATCH!!

YP S<RFMR.

GGRR RRRRRRAH HH!!

I--

--YOU CAN'T--

I CAN DO ANYTHING I WANT.

ANYTHING.

I AM GOD.

CAP?

SPUH.

OUR JUDGES WILL ACCEPT "*SPUH*," YES.

SO, UH, SO THE BAD GUYS KNOCKED US ALL FLAT AND MOVED ON.

IS EVERY--

EVERYONE'S ***HURT***, BUT NOBODY'S TOO TERRIBLY INCAPACITATED...

"HEY BEARDO, SUCK IT?"

BIT OFF MY ***GAME***, CAP. HAVEN'T SLEPT SINCE--

--LAST ***FALL***, I THINK.

EASY THERE-- GIVE YOURSELF A SECOND TO LET YOUR ***EARS*** STOP RINGING.

AND, *AHH*--I NEED TO RUN SOMETHING BY YOU.

I'VE--WE-- I'M SORRY, IT'S JUST--

--I HAVEN'T-- I MEAN--***NONE*** OF US HAVE HEARD ANYTHING FROM OUR ***FAMILIES***, OR--

--I DON'T... CAP...

...I HAVE PEOPLE, YOU KNOW? AND THIS LOOKS REAL... ***GRIM***.

SPIDER-MAN... I APPRECIATE THAT YOU...

...I NEED YOU HERE. I NEED ***EVERYBODY*** HERE.

CAP...

I THINK IT'S TIME TO GO.

FRANKLIN, HURRY *UP*--HE'S *FADING*--

VAL. I *GOT* IT.

UNCLE BEN. GONNA TELL YOU SOMETHING, OKAY?

'MEMBER HOW I TOLD MOM AND DAD THAT I *WOULDN'T* USE MY POWERS?

THAT I *KNEW* HOW POWERFUL THEY MADE ME, AND HOW DANGEROUS THAT WAS UNTIL I GOT OLDER, SO I WOULDN'T EVER, EVER, *NEVER* USE THEM *EVER?*

I LIED.

FRANKLIN.

YER *FOLKS* ARE GONNA *KILL US.*

DID YOU NOW.

I... KNEW.

AND I NEVER COULD.

AAAAH... AAAAH. I...

I CANNOT BEAT YOU, YOU KNOW.

RRRAAAAAHHH--!

ᛒᚲᚹᚠᛉᛞᚱᛁᛟ!

ᚠᚷᚲᚠᛁᚱ ᚢᚺᚠᚷᛊ!

ᛃᚠᛗᛃᚠᛗᚹ

TO BE...

...CONTINUED...

BANNER...

THUD.

I TOLD HIM HE COULD *STAND DOWN.*

STAND DOWN?! CAP, HOW COULD-- *WHY?*

BECAUSE HE'S *RIGHT...*

CAP? WHERE'S SPIDER-MAN *GOING?*

LOOK *AROUND* YOU, HAWKEYE...

...WE'RE GOING TO *LOSE.*

BOOK SIX

FEAR ITSELF 6: BLOOD-TIED & DOOMED

MATT FRACTION STUART IMMONEN

WADE VON GRAWBADGER

LAURA MARTIN

CHRIS ELIOPOULOS

LAUREN SANKOVITCH

TOM BREVOORT

AXEL ALONSO

JOE QUESADA

DAN BUCKLEY

ALAN FINE

WAY AHEAD OF YOU, BIG MAN.

LET'S HOPE *HEIMDALL'S OBSERVATORY* STILL WORKS AFTER *AVENGERS TOWER* FELL DOWN UNDERNEATH IT...

IT WORKS. IT'S *ODIN.*

IT WILL WORK.

NOT THRILLED ABOUT THE *VISUAL* HERE, GANG.

THESE FOLKS ARE ALL *SCARED* AND *TIRED* AND THEY'RE WATCHING US *RUN.*

THEY NEED *REASSURANCE* AND REINFORCEMENTS...

...AND WHAT WE'RE GIVING THEM LOOKS LIKE *RETREAT.*

ODIN CAN HEAL ME.

CAN KEEP FIGHTING. CAN *WIN.*

'TIS NOT *RETREAT,* CAPTAIN.

WE ARE *ALL* DOOMED. WE KNOW IT. *THEY* KNOW IT.

WHY PRETEND OTHERWISE TO SOOTHE *FEELINGS?*

THE *AVENGERS* ARE ABOUT TO WALK INTO A PILE OF RUBBLE AND DISAPPEAR, PROTECTOR.

PEOPLE ARE GOING TO *FREAK OUT* AND *BURN STUFF DOWN* WHEN THAT HAPPENS.

SHE'S *RIGHT.*

THIS ALL MIGHT BE IN *VAIN,* BUT IF PEOPLE SEE US AS RUNNING AWAY THERE'LL BE *PANIC.*

SO *WE'LL* STAY.

MY TEAM'LL FALL BACK TO THE *MANSION* AND RUN THE NEW YORK *EVACUATION* FROM THERE. *YOU* GO...DO YOUR THING.

ALL THAT *ASGARD* STUFF GETS ME FEELING *TWITCHY* ANYWAY...

I'LL SEE YOU *SOON,* LUKE.

ISN'T IT NICE TO THINK.

LET'S FIGURE OUT HOW THE *HELL* YOU EVACUATE NINE MILLION PEOPLE AT ONCE AND TRY NOT TO THINK ABOUT WHAT OUR *TEAMMATES* ARE GOING THROUGH.

ALL RIGHT, AVENGERS.

ASGARD-SPACE

TEN THOUSAND IN THE **WORLDBURNER LEGION**, ODIN, ALL READY TO FIGHT AND DIE AND INCINERATE AT YOUR COMMAND.

NOT **ENOUGH**, HEIMDALL. IT WON'T BE ENOUGH.

FIVE THOUSAND BONEBREAKER TANKS, **TWENTY THOUSAND** HELMOUNTS...

TO SCORCH A WORLD DOWN TO THE ROOT IS AN UNIMAGINABLE THING, HEIMDALL. THE **FIREPOWER** REQUIRED--

ODIN...

SOMEONE **APPROACHES.**

FROM **MIDGARD...**

ODIN!!

THAT *MONSTER* MY WORLD IS KILLING ITSELF TO *FIGHT* ON *YOUR BEHALF* JUST SENT TWO OF HIS THUGS TO BREAK YOUR BOY IN *TWO.*

WELL, HE FOUGHT 'EM *BACK* WITH ALL HE HAD.

SO NOW YOU *FIX HIM.*

...

EXCUSE ME?

THOR. FIX HIM. NOW!

I CAN'T *FIGHT* AND *DIE* IN YOUR WAR ON MY DAMN *FEET* WITHOUT *THOR* OUT THERE FIGHTING *WITH ME.*

AND IF YOU WANT YOUR SERPENT *DEAD* WE ALL KNOW THERE'S ONLY ONE *GUY* WHO CAN DO IT.

WHO-- YOU-- WHAT?

HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO ME THAT WAY.

I AM THE *ALL-FATHER.* AND *HERE* IN *MY REALM* I --

SAVE IT.

IS *THAT* YOUR ARMY, BIG MAN?

AYE. THE ASGARDIAN ARMY IS NEARLY PREPARED.

PREPARED TO MARCH ON YOUR LITTLE WORLD. PREPARED TO REDUCE IT--AND ALL PRESENCE THE SERPENT HAS THERE--

--INTO ASH AND CINDER.

YOU'RE GONNA NEED MORE GUYS--

AWAY, APES.

AWAY WITH ALL OF YOU...

AND YOU, BOY.

MY BOY, MY BOY. MY BEAUTIFUL BOY.

WE'LL BE IN MY CHAMBERS.

I WISH TO HAVE ONE LAST CONVERSATION WITH MY SON BEFORE NIGHT FALLS...

AND NIGHT FALLS VERY SOON.

FALLEN ASGARD, BROXTON, OKLAHOMA

--YOU... AH.

DAMMIT.

CAP... YOU JUST... *SMACK-TALKED ODIN...*

I MEAN, DON'T GET ME *WRONG*, I LIKE YOUR STYLE, BUT...

...HOW'RE YOU *HOLDING UP*, STEVE?

NOT *GREAT*. I DON'T *LOSE WELL*, HAWK.

WE NEED TO START *EVACUATING*.

"EVACUATING?" WHAT? NEW YORK? LUKE'S ON THAT. BROXTON? WE CAN--

EARTH, HAWKEYE.

WE NEED TO EVACUATE THE *EARTH*.

AND I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DO THAT.

--SKYROCKETING SUICIDE RATES--

--DEVASTATION TO **PARIS** AND CASUALTY LEVELS SEEM, IN THE WORDS OF ONE U.N. OFFICIAL, "TOTAL"--

--**FOOD RIOTS** REPORTED IN **SEVENTEEN** AMERICAN CITIES TONIGHT--

--IN RESPONSE TO NORTH KOREAN MILITARY LEVELS INCREASING IN THE YELLOW SEA, THE SOUTH KOREAN--

--SUICIDE BOMBERS SIMULTANEOUSLY DETONATED DEVICES IN A CROWDED DOWNTOWN--

CAN YOU ***FEEL THAT,*** SKADI?

THEIR WILLS ALL ***BREAKING!*** THEIR ***SPIRITS*** WITHERING!

THE MORE ***FEARFUL*** THIS WORLD BECOMES... THE ***STRONGER*** I HAVE BECOME. AND NOW--NOW AS THEY ARE ABOUT TO ***BREAK--***

--IT IS AT LAST ***TIME.*** THE ***ENDGAME*** IS UPON US NOW.

HEAR ME, MY MOST WORTHY OF TERRORS: I AM ***STRONG ENOUGH*** TO ***SLAUGHTER ODIN*** AND HIS ARMIES OF MAN AND GOD ALIKE.

VICTORY IS UPON US NOW. ***CONVERGE*** ON THE ***WORLD TREE.***

KILL ***EVERYTHING*** IN YOUR PATH...

...ENDING WITH BROTHER ***ODIN*** AND HIS WHOLE DAMNED ***FAMILY.***

MASTER... IF THE ***PROPHESY*** HOLDS...

...THE ***ODINSON*** WILL ***KILL YOU*** AS YOU CLASH.

HOW CAN WE CALL ***THAT*** VICTORY?

EVEN IF I FALL, MY DEAR SKADI, YOU SHALL RISE.

AND CARRY ON IN MY NAME.

THIS IS FOR YOU, DARLING.

THIS WAS ALL ALWAYS JUST FOR YOU.

MAY PARKER!!

--THIRD TIME AROUND THE ISLAND--

HAS ANYONE SEEN *MAY PARKER?*

--*RUMOR* IS THE TUNNELS ARE ALL SHUT DOWN--

ALMOST OUT OF *WEBBING*--

MAY PARKER! I'M LOOKING FOR--

GO BACK TO WORK, YA BUM!

--AND *ENERGY*--

--AND *TIME*--

KEEP CHECKING THE *BRIDGES*--

SPIDER-MAN!

--MAYBE *SWING BY* HER PLACE AGAIN, SEARCH FLOOR TO--

SPIDEY!

AUNT MAY--

SPIDER-MAN, DOWN *HERE!*

MAY MAY MAY MAY *MAY*--

I--ARE--
I'M MAY PARKER, WHY ARE--
ARE YOU OKAY? ARE YOU HURT? DO YOU--
DO YOU NEED ANY--
HELP
HOME
HAVE YOU
MY DOGS
MY SON
WHERE DO I
MY WIFE
SAVE ME
MOM HASN'T
CAN YOU
WHY ON *EARTH* ARE YOU LOOKING FOR *ME?* AND HOW DID YOU FIND ME?
I JUST CHECKED THE BRIDGES A FEW...HUNDRED... TIMES BECAUSE PETER...ASKED ME? TO FIND YOU?
AND... I SAID OKAY?
IS... PETER...ALL RIGHT?
YEAH.
YEAH, MAY.
WHAT A RELIEF.
KEEP HIM SAFE. KEEP *EVERYBODY* SAFE.
YOU HAVE A GREAT RESPONSIBILITY, YOU KNOW, AND IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT, ME KEEPING YOU *HERE* AWAY FROM IT.
YES, MA'AM.

SOME OF THESE WOUNDS WON'T HEAL.

I KNOW.

'TIS THEIR WAY.

THIS SEEMS TO KEEP *HAPPENING* TO YOU, BOY... GETTING BEATEN DOWN AND DRAGGED BACK TO *ASGARD.*

YOU'D THINK IT A *PATTERN.*

KEEP FALLING FROM THE *SKY*, TOO, BUT THAT'S NOT STOPPED ME.

ASGARDIANS ARE NOTHING WITHOUT OUR *CYCLES* AND *REFRAINS...*

HMMPH.

THERE IS *STILL TIME.*

YOU DON'T HAVE TO FIGHT-- TO *DIE*--CLEANING UP WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY MINE TO DEAL WITH.

SACRIFICING *A WORLD* TO SAVE OUR OWN IS UNACCEPTABLE TO ME.

AND WHILE YOU MIGHT WISH IT *OTHERWISE*, I LEARNED THAT FROM *YOU.*

SOME THINGS ARE SO RIGHT THEY ARE WORTH DYING FOR.

WERE YOU A *FATHER...* WERE YOU TO EVER *BECOME* A FATHER...

MAYBE YOU WOULD UNDERSTAND.

A WORLD IS *NOTHING* FOR YOUR SON.

MAYBE IN THE NEXT LIFE.

MAYBE IN THE NEXT REFRAIN.

THE SERPENT... WAS MY BROTHER.

HE *IS* MY BROTHER, AND I...

HE IS AS OLD AS I AM, BUT HIS WAYS SEEM EVEN OLDER.

IT'S WHY I COULD NOT ***KILL*** HIM BUT ONLY ***BIND HIM.*** AND WHY, TO KILL HIM, YOU MUST FALL YOURSELF.

WE OF THE ***PRIMORDIAL TIMES*** HAVE RULES ABOUT THESE SORTS OF THINGS.

SO IT FALLS TO ME.

BLOOD-TIED AND DOOMED. SO BE IT.

TCH.

MY ARMOR.

WHEN I RAZED ***AESHEIM*** AND BURNED IT ALL UNTIL ONLY ***MIDGARD*** REMAINED...WHEN I SLAUGHTERED ***BILLIONS*** STAINED BY HIS SICKNESS...

...WHEN I ***FIRST*** CAST HIM OUT AND DOWN...THIS WAS WHAT I WORE, AND IT PROTECTED ME.

YOU'LL STILL ***FEEL*** IT WHEN HE COMES AT YOU... THE HELMET WILL PROTECT YOU FROM SOME OF THE SCREAMS...

NOT ALL. BUT SOME.

THERE WILL STILL BE PAIN, LAD. AND YOU MUST BE READY.

THE REFRAIN'S *END*, THEN. SO BE IT.

I AM READY.

NO. NO, YOU'RE *NOT*.

REMEMBER THAT.

IS *HE* THE TRUE *ALL-FATHER*?

I HAVE LIED ABOUT *MANY THINGS* TO YOU-- TO *ALL* OF ASGARD, TO ALL OF THE REALMS. *EONS* OF RUNNING FROM THIS SINGLE, AWFUL TRUTH.

I HAVE TRIED TO PROTECT MY PEOPLE ONE AND ALL FROM THIS BEAST OF A BROTHER OF MINE BY *WIPING HIM* FROM MEMORY.

HE ISN'T MY *OPPOSITE*, THOR. HE IS MY *ABSENCE*.

HE CAN *DIE*. THAT IS ALL THAT MATTERS. HE CAN BE KILLED WITH *THIS*.

THE ODINSWORD-- WHOSE TRUE NAME IS *RAGNAROK*.

A BLADE FORGED TO END ALL THINGS. A WARNING AND A PROMISE, THIS. AS BIG AS ANYTHING.

SVARTALFHEIM:

SORRY WE'RE LATE.

I ASSUME THIS MEANS IT'S TIME FOR EVERYBODY TO GO *DIE* IN YOUR NAME, YEAH?

ASSUME NO MORE.

I AM *READY*, YOU MEN OF SVARTALFHEIM.

PRESENT THE ARMS TO ME YOU HAVE MADE IN THE SERVICE AND DEFENSE OF EARTH.

MY *REPULSOR* POWER NODES AND OTHER PROPRIETARY BITS OF *STARK* TECHNOLOGY INSIDE--

--AND *ENCHANTED URU* OUTSIDE. EACH ONE DESIGNED FOR ONE SPECIFIC *AVENGER* TO USE.

EARTH'S MIGHTIEST *WEAPONS* FOR EARTH'S MIGHTIEST *HEROES*...

AND WHICH IS *YOURS*, STARK?

WHAT *WEAPON* WOULD THE MAN WHO WOULD INSULT A *GOD* CHOOSE TO BRING TO THE DAY OF HIS DEATH?

I RATHER CAME HAVING HAD.

YOU KNOW THERE'S ONLY *ONE WAY* FOR *THAT* TO RECEIVE MY BLESSING?

I DO.

WELL...

BRAVE MAN.

ᛉᚠᛈᚱ, ARE YOU *SURE* ABOUT THIS, BOSS?

SURE, SPLITLIP. IT'S A LEAP OF FAITH.

BAPTISM OF FIRE.

IT'S **ALL** THAT SYMBOLIC, POETIC ᛉᚠᛇᚱ I DON'T BELIEVE IN...

THOR...BEFORE THIS LOUD-MOUTHED MORTAL OF YOURS HURLS HIMSELF INTO A BOILING CAULDRON OF URU AND REDUCES HIMSELF TO CINDER...

...BEFORE *YOU* GO CHARGING OFF TO CERTAIN *DOOM*... THERE IS STILL TIME. I CAN SPIRIT YOU *AWAY* FROM HERE, BOY. IT'S NOT *TOO LATE.*

I ASK YOU... ONE LAST TIME...

WHERE DO YOU *STAND?*

ARE YOU *MAN* OR ARE YOU *GOD?*

I AM A *MAN,* FATHER.

I AM THE MAN YOU RAISED ME TO BE.

BEHOLD!

AYE, YOU ARE AT THAT.

WORLD OF MAN: YOU HAVE UNTIL THE SHADOW OF THE SERPENT FALLS ACROSS THE WORLD TREE.

I CAN WAIT NO LONGER.

UNDERSTOOD.

STARK. GO.

REALLY?

AHH, GOD...

FALLEN ASGARD:

THE GOOD NEWS IS, WE KNOW *THE SERPENT'S* OBJECTIVE.

FAN OUT-- AND *GET READY.* THE MISSION IS TO KEEP THEM AWAY FROM THE *WORLD TREE* AS LONG AS WE CAN *NO MATTER WHAT.*

CAP...?

CAP! WHERE ARE YOU--YOU CAN'T--

WHERE'S *IRON MAN?* WHERE'S *THOR?* ARE WE ON OUR *OWN* OUT HERE?

STEVE, DAMMIT, WHERE ARE YOU--

THEY'LL *BE HERE,* CLINT. WORRY ABOUT *YOU* RIGHT NOW, NOT THEM.

OH YEAH? WELL WHAT ABOUT YOU?

I'M GOING TO MAN THE LINE.

THE *HELL* IS *THAT* THING?

DONNIE, I DON'T LIKE THIS.

...I WANT TO GET BACK TO *TOWN.* MAKE SURE THE FAMILY'S OKAY.

SMART MAN.

THAT THING IS THE CAPITAL CITY OF *HELL.*

IT'S COMING HERE. IT'S COMING RIGHT *AT* US. AND ALL *MANNER* OF DESTRUCTION IS COMING WITH IT.

THIS IS THE END OF THE WORLD, FELLAS.

AND I'M RAISING A *MILITIA* TO MAKE A STAND *RIGHT HERE.*

YOU CAN STAND *WITH ME* AND *DIE FIGHTING.* YOU CAN GO BE WITH YOUR FAMILIES. IT'S YOUR CHOICE; YOU WON'T BE *JUDGED.*

BUT IF YOU LEAVE...

LEAVE YOUR *WEAPONS.*

I'LL *NEED* 'EM.

I'VE BEEN WAITING A LONG TIME FOR THIS.

ALL RIGHT, YOU SON OF A BITCH.

LET'S SEE WHAT MAKES *YOU* AFRAID.

BOOK SEVEN

FEAR ITSELF 7: THOR'S DAY

MATT FRACTION

STUART IMMONEN

WADE VON GRAWBADGER

WITH VINES

LAURA MARTIN

WITH PONSOR & MILLA

CHRIS ELIOPOULOS

LAUREN SANKOVITCH

TOM BREVOORT

AXEL ALONSO

JOE QUESADA

DAN BUCKLEY

ALAN FINE

KILL THEM ALL.

TAKE THE WORLD TREE.

BRING ME *ODIN'S HEAD.*

COME ON!

COME ON!

OUTSIDE BROXTON, OK.
FRIDAY:

FALLEN ASGARD:

WELL?

YOU BRING US A MIRACLE OR WHAT?

MISSED YOU TOO, HAWKEYE.

WHAT WOULD AN END-OF-THE-WORLD PARTY BE WITHOUT THE PARTY FAVORS?

THAT...

...IS ABSOLUTELY *NOT* THE CAVALRY I WAS HOPING FOR.

STARK. TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.

THOR-- WE'LL CATCH UP.

BOYS-- HAND OUT THE *WEAPONS*...

THE STRATEGY IS SIMPLE: TAKE DOWN AS MANY OF **THEM** AS WE CAN ON OUR WAY **OUT.** THESE'LL HELP.

AS I UNDERSTAND IT--

--AND I'M TELLING YOU, I **DON'T** UNDERSTAND IT--

--THESE WEAPONS HAVE ALL BEEN "BLESSED" BY **ODIN,** SO WHEN THEY'RE ACTIVATED THERE WILL BE SOME KIND OF...**TRANSFORMATIONAL** COMPONENT YOU SHOULD BE READY FOR.

DIDN'T MAKE ANYTHING FOR **CAP**--YOU CAN'T BEAT THAT SHIELD. HOPE HE DOESN'T FEEL LEFT OUT.

NOW LET'S GET TO **STOPPING** THESE BASTARDS AND--

TONY-- ABOUT CAP'S SHIELD...YOU AND YOUR ***SEVEN DWARVES*** HAVE BEEN IN THE UNDERWORLD A ***LONG TIME,*** MAN.

HAH. SEVEN DWARVES...

WAIT, WHAT HAPPENED TO CAP'S SHIELD...?

I'M COMING FOR YOU, BROTHER!

I AM COMING FOR WHAT IS MINE!

ALL OVER THE WORLD, THESE ANIMALS CLAW AT THEIR OWN THROATS!

THEIR CHAMPIONS FAIL AND FALL AT MY FEET!

FEAR IS THE ENGINE THAT FEEDS THIS WORLD!

DO YOU HEAR ME, BROTHER?!

BROTHER OF MINE, OR BROTHER OF MINE.

WHAT AM I GOING TO *DO* WITH YOU...

YOU TOOK WHAT WAS RIGHTFULLY MINE!

TODAY I TAKE IT BACK.

ALL RIGHT.

MY TEAM.

HOLD THE LINE, AVENGERS!

LET'S SHOW 'EM HOW IT'S DONE!

"RICK! YOU'RE SAFE--! YOU CAME *BACK* TO US!"

"DADDY!"

HEY, BUDDY. C'MERE.

ARE YOU OKAY? IS IT-- IT SOUNDS *BAD* OUT THERE. WE HEARD *EXPLOSIONS...*

YEAH, NO. YEAH. IT'S BAD I GUESS. I--

--THERE YOU GO, LITTLE GUY--

BABY, LOOK, I--I'M *SORRY,* I--

--I'M GOING *BACK OUT.* TO *HELP.*

RICK, DON'T, IT'S TOO *DANGEROUS--*

I THOUGHT ABOUT IT ALL THE WAY *BACK HERE.* I THOUGHT ABOUT IT THE WHOLE WAY AND...

WE LEFT HIM *ALONE* OUT THERE. THAT'S NOT RIGHT.

IF THIS... IF THIS IS THE END...?

I DON'T WANT TO BE AFRAID ANYMORE.

SERPENT!

THE TIME OF OUR PROPHECY IS *AT HAND!*

INDEED.

VILLAIN!

GAH--!

BLOOD OF MY BLOOD...

DID YOU REALLY THINK... IT WOULD BE EASY...?

I WAS-- --HOPING FOR-- --FAST--

GGRRRAAHHHHH!

GAAHHH--

CAPLOOKOUT--!

WUUHH.

OOPH--

CAP.

CAP?

I--

--LUKE?

RICK, SIR.

JUST RICK. YOU OKAY?

YOU CAME BACK.

KNEW YOU WOULDN'T LET ME DOWN.

IT'S MY TOWN. SOMEBODY HAS TO STAND UP FOR THE PLACE.

BESIDES THE AVENGERS, I MEAN.

I *KNEW* IT.

I *KNEW*.

CAP...?

I GOT NEWS FOR YOU, BUDDY:

WE'RE *ALL* AVENGERS NOW.

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE!

TOO LATE.

FOR YOU. FOR THEM.

YOU'VE BEEN BURIED BENEATH THE OCEAN FOR A *MILLENNIA.*

WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT THEM--

--WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT WHAT THEY ARE *CAPABLE* OF DOING--

--WILL KILL YOU.

WHO'S NEXT?

WHO'S NEXT?!

"--FIVE ALARM **FIRE** SWEEPING THROUGH THE CHEMICAL FACTORY REMAINS UNCHECKED AS **EVACUATION ORDERS** ARE--"

FERNO AT GEFFEN-MEYER CHEMICAL

6

HAH.

CAN'T MISS.

"--RELIEF WORKERS FINALLY ABLE TO REACH REFUGEES ALONG THE BORDER TODAY AS--"

HUNDERTE VERWUNDETE AM GRENZÜB NG

12

ᛞᚹᚠᛞᚹ!

I'M SORRY, I DON'T SPEAK GIANT SKANK. DOC?

MANNERS, DANIEL.

YES, SIR. SORRY--

--SIR!

CHAIN-FIGHTER GUT-BUST, 9TH POSITION.

I KILLED YOUR BOY, LITTLE MAN.

KILL YOU *NEXT*. KILL *THE WORLD*.

LIVE

DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO RELIEF EFFORT 1

"--SURVIVOR PULLED FROM THE WRECKAGE OF--"

WE'LL TAKE YOU *WITH US*, SIN. MAKE NO MISTAKE.

YOU...

...AND YOUR *BOSS*.

--BRRRAHHHH--

WHENEVER YOU'RE *READY*, LITTLE GIRL.

I'VE GOT ALL *DAY* TO EVEN THIS SCORE.

YEAH YEAH--

--SAY "*HELLO*" TO THE SAVAGE SWORD OF *SHE-HULK!*

ᛞᛒᛚᛈᚱᛟ!

WHOA.

THIS DOES NOT NEED TO BE OUR END, THOR--

--FOR WHOM DO YOU FIGHT? FOR WHOM DO YOU DIE?

A WORLD THAT WILL NEVER HONOR YOU?

A FATHER THAT NEVER TOLD THE TRUTH A DAY IN HIS LIFE?

THE MOMENT IS NIGH!

ASGARD!

TODAY WE RAZE MIDGARD!

THE LEGIONS OF THE BEAST ARE UPON OUR DOORSTEP!

THE ARMIES OF MAN HAVE FALLEN!

"THE LINE IS DRAWN ON EARTH!

"WE MARCH, ASGARD!

"FOR OUR FALLEN BROTHERS!

"FOR THE GLORIOUS DEAD OF MIDGARD!"

WAR!

BLOOD OF MY BLOOD--

--TONIGHT IS A FINE NIGHT TO DIE!

MARCH! TO MIDGARD!

TO MIDGARD AND TO SLAUGHTER!

CITY UNDER ATTACK

"--REPORTS FROM **BROOKLYN** AT THIS HOUR OF WHAT'S BEING CALLED A **CIVILIAN MILITIA** DEFENDING A LOCAL **HOSPITAL** FROM--"

"--**FOOD BANK** HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AT THE 323RD STREET MOSQUE AND DONATIONS KEEP--"

"--NO OTHER WORD BUT **MIRACLE**--"

my **BOY.**

WE WERE TOO LATE--

NO--

--NO--!!

AVENGERS--

--WATCH OUT--

FALL.

SIN.

SIN, DAMN YOU-- OPEN YOUR EYES!

CAP, CAREFUL-- CAP--!

THOR!

FATHER.

FUH--

FATHER, DID I--

no.

FALLEN ASGARD
SATURDAY:

ARE WE *DOING* THIS RIGHT?

WE'RE BUILDING A *FIRE*, HOW HARD CAN IT BE?

WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS, WHERE'S CAP?

WE'RE NOT GONNA DO THIS WITHOUT *CAP*, ARE WE?

HELL WITH *CAP*--

THE BATTLEFIELD:

"...WHERE'S *ODIN?* S'HIS *KID* UP THERE. HE'S GONNA MISS THOR'S *GRAND FINALE...*"

ODIN. THE *PYRE* IS NEARLY READY.

HEIMDALL. HE MAY PASS.

HUNDREDS--*THOUSANDS*--OF YEARS OF TRYING TO SAVE HIM FROM A DOOMED PROPHECY OF MY OWN DEVISING, ALL FOR *NAUGHT.*

MY *SON*, DESTINED TO KILL MY OWN BROTHER AT THE PRICE OF HIS *LIFE.*

TIME FOR US NOW TO FINALLY GO *HOME.*

HOME?

ASGARD SPACE:

WHAT IN THE WORLD--

CUL.

WELCOME *HOME.*

HERE I SHALL STAND *GUARD* OVER YOU UNTIL THE END OF TIME...

...MY BROTHER'S *KEEPER* AT LAST.

WHOA.

HEY THERE, UH... GUY...

DID YOU GUYS ALL COME FOR THOR'S *FUNERAL?*

NO, I...

I RATHER THINK *ODIN* HAS *CAST US* ALL *OUT* AND *SEALED ASGARD* BEHIND HIM.

...I THINK WE'RE HERE FOR *GOOD.*

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
SUNDAY:

SVARTALFHEIM
MONDAY:

C'MON, YOU ᛊᛉᛗᚹᚱᛒ ᚲᚠᛗᚹᚱᚦ.

THESE WEAPONS AIN'T GONNA MELT *THEMSELVES*...

STARK!

OH, HERE. THAT OTHER THING.

DID THE BEST WE COULD...

"THERE'S A *LITTLE* DAMAGE STILL VISIBLE, BUT..."

QUINCARRIER
TUESDAY:

...WITH THE URU-INFUSED ENHANCEMENTS IT SHOULD BE EVEN *STRONGER* THAN EVER.

AND I DON'T KNOW, MAYBE I CAN TAKE A WHACK AT BUFFING THE SCAR DOWN, OR--

NO.

NO, THAT'S OKAY.

GIVES THE OLD GIRL A BIT OF *CHARACTER.*

MANHATTAN
WEDNESDAY:

WE'LL *REBUILD.*

ASGARD... MANHATTAN... *THE WORLD.* WE'LL *REBUILD IT ALL.*

LIKE THE REST OF THE WORLD, WE'LL DIG DEEP AND FIND THE STRENGTH TO GET OUT OF BED TOMORROW MORNING AND START ALL OVER AGAIN.

THE AVENGERS WILL BURY OUR DEAD, MOURN OUR LOSSES...

AND THEN GET BACK TO WORK...

BROXTON THURSDAY:

C'MON, Y'STUPID PIECE OF *JUNK*--

Kilpatrick Realty
FOR SALE

UH-- HEY THERE, AH--

HEY THERE, NEIGHBOR.

I LIVE NEXT DOOR. HI. I'M RICK.

SHELLY.

WINSLOW. NICE TO MEET YOU.

THINK IT'S OUT OF *GAS*.

THEY STILL GOT US ON GAS RATIONS AND WE'RE ALL DRY NEXT DOOR, BUT...

DON'T DO MUCH IN THE REAL *TALL* PARTS, BUT IT'LL GET THE JOB DONE.

WELL, PRETTY MUCH.

ACTUALLY KINDA USELESS NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...

HEY, THAT'S ALL RIGHT. I'LL GIVE IT A TRY.

STILL NEIGHBORLY OF YOU. THANKS.

NO WORRIES.

WE ALL GOTTA TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER, RIGHT?

END

FEAR ITSELF #3 VARIANT BY **GUISEPPE CAMUNCOLI, MARK MORALES** & **FRANK D'ARMATA**

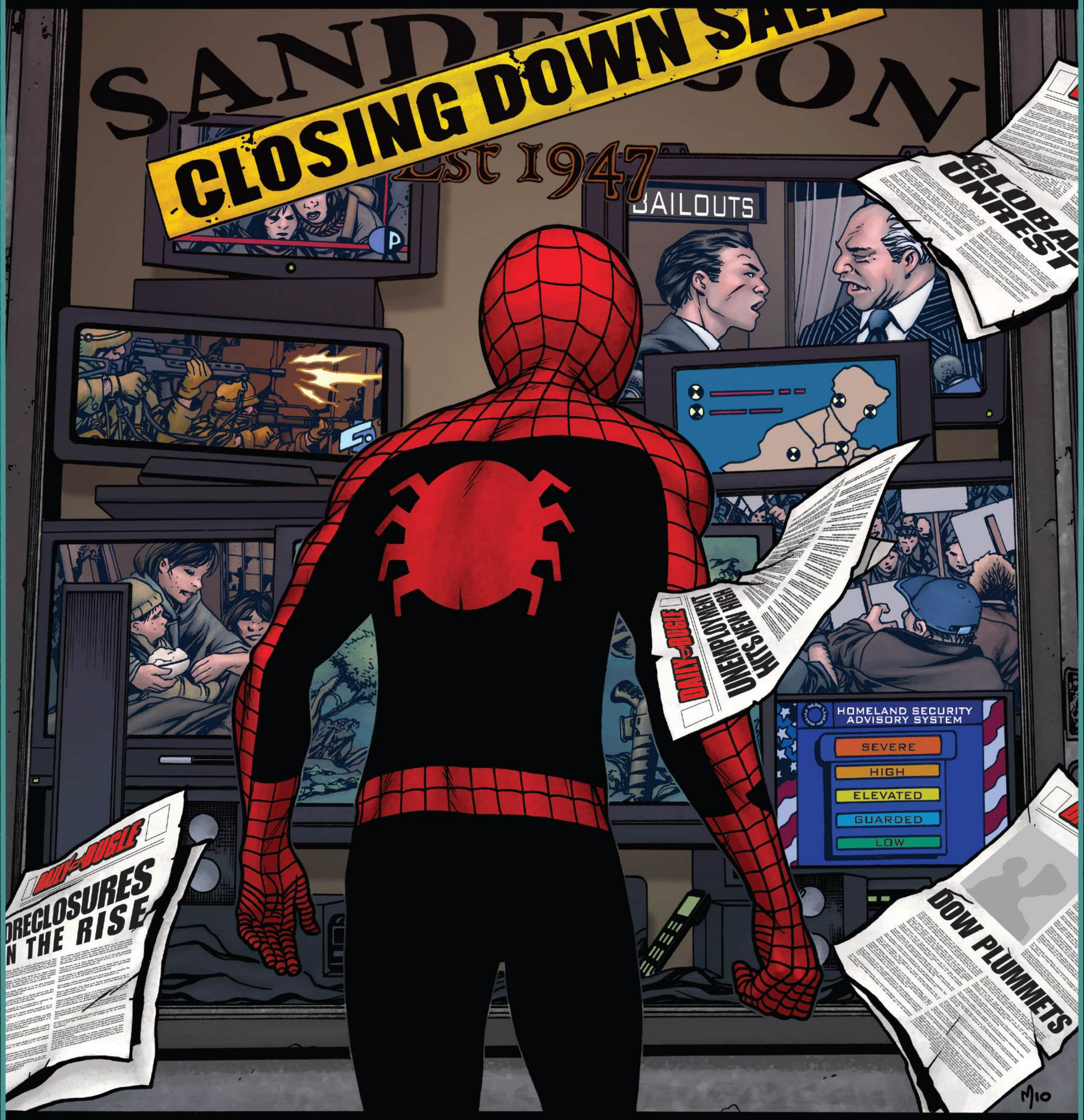
FEAR ITSELF #3 VARIANT BY **STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBADGER** & **LAURA MARTIN**

FEAR ITSELF #4 VARIANT BY **TERRY DODSON, RACHEL DODSON** & **JUSTIN PONSOR**

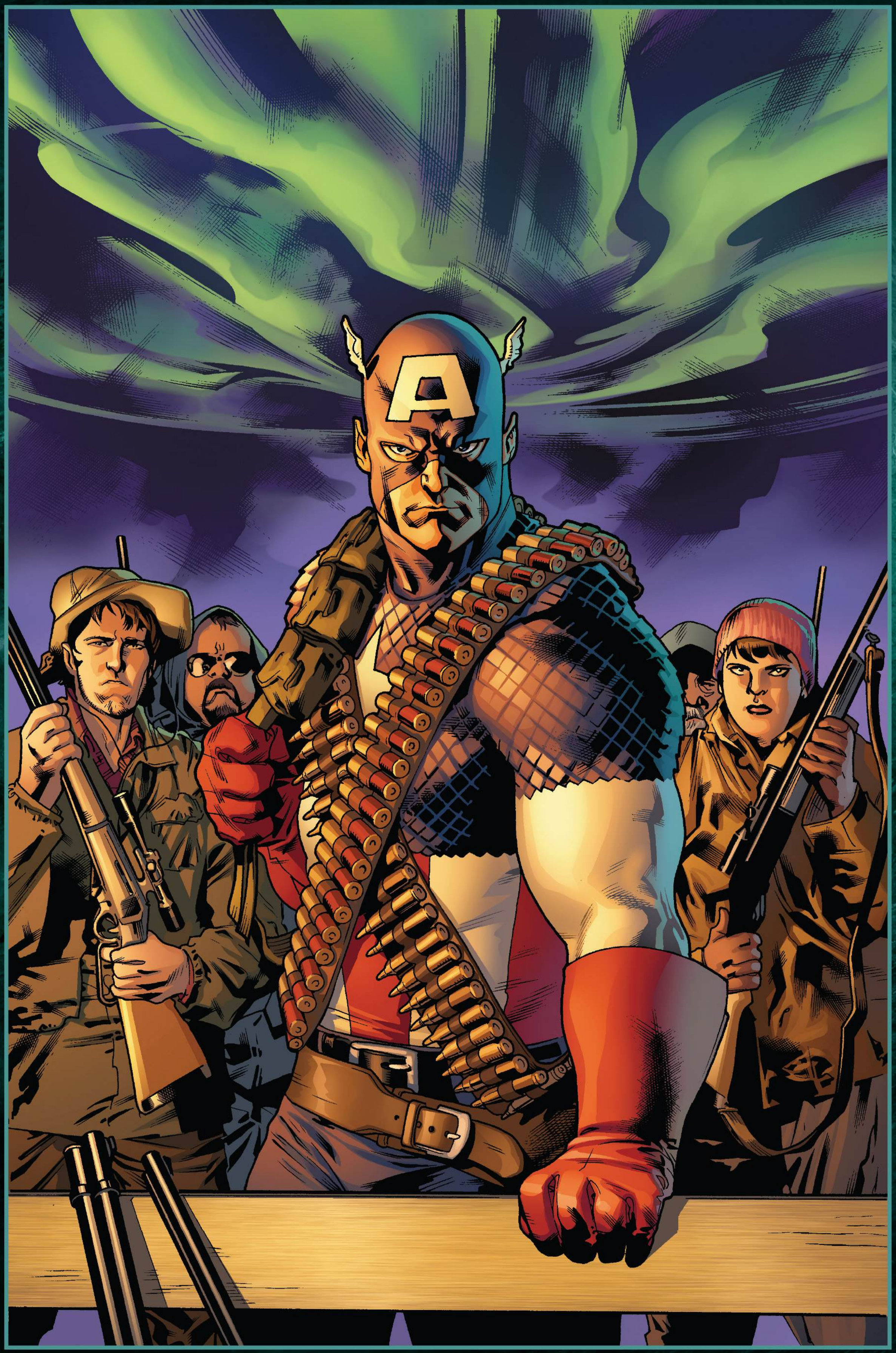
FEAR ITSELF #4 VARIANT BY **STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBADGER** & **LAURA MARTIN**

FEAR ITSELF #5 VARIANT BY **BILLY TAN** & **PAUL MOUNTS**

FEAR ITSELF #5 VARIANT BY **STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBADGER** & **LAURA MARTIN**



FEAR ITSELF #6 VARIANT BY **MIKE McKONE** & **MORRY HOLLOWELL**



FEAR ITSELF #5 VARIANT BY **STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBADGER** & **LAURA MARTIN**

FEAR ITSELF #6 VARIANT BY
HUMBERTO RAMOS
& **EDGAR DELGADO**

FEAR ITSELF #6 VARIANT BY
ED McGUINNESS ,
DEXTER VINES & **DAVE MCCAIG**

FEAR ITSELF: BOOK OF THE SKULL
VARIANT BY **JOE QUESADA,**
DANNY MIKI & **RICHARD ISANOVE**

FEAR ITSELF #7 VARIANT BY **STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBADGER** & **LAURA MARTIN**

FEAR ITSELF #1 VARIANT BY **BILLY TAN** & **MARTE GRACIA**

FEAR ITSELF #7 VARIANT BY **STUART IMMONEN, WADE VON GRAWBADGER** & **RICHARD ISANOVE**

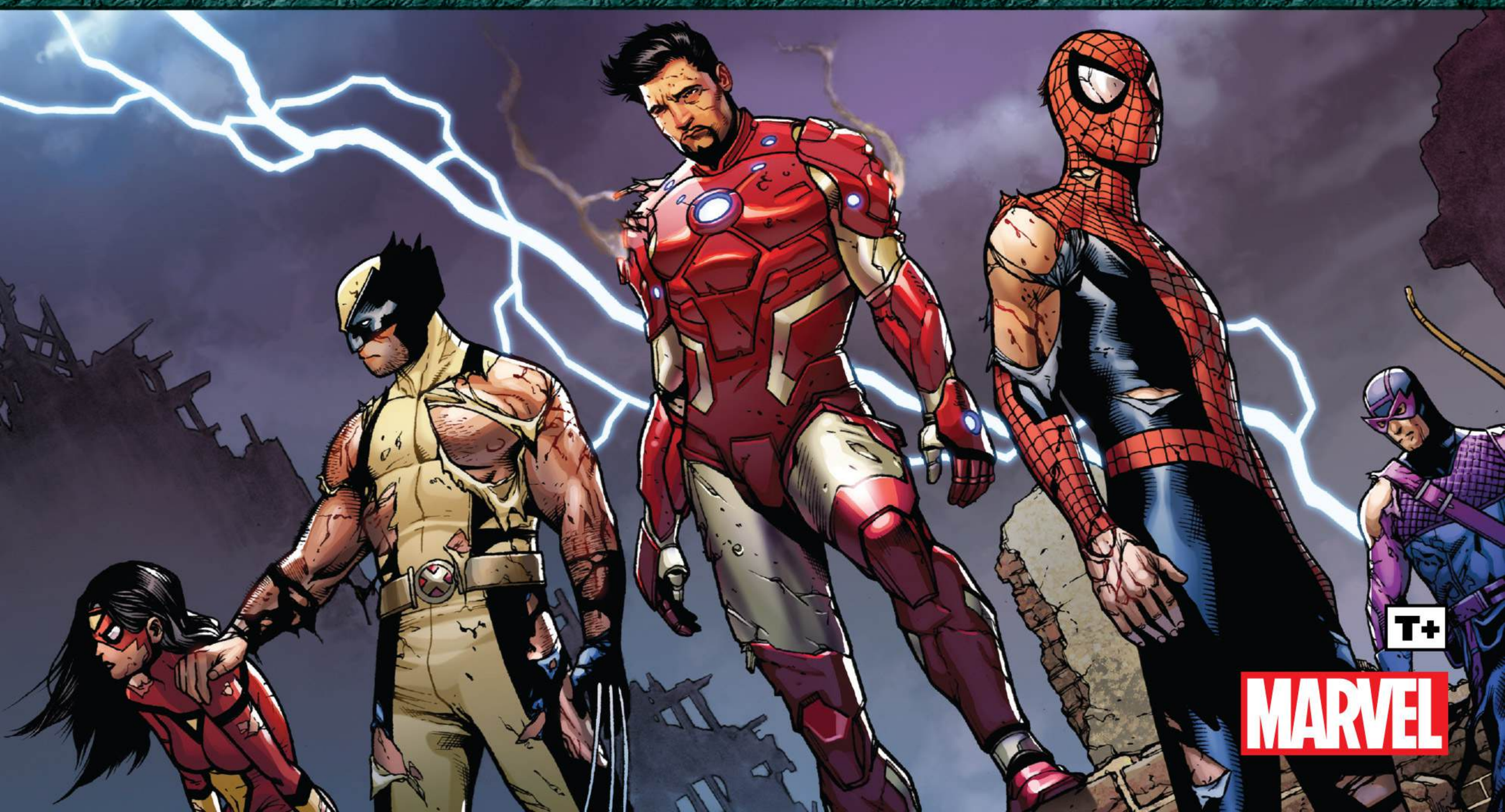
MNV
MORALES
J-Po

IRON BREAKS. SOLDIERS FALL. GODS DIE.

Captain America, Thor, Iron Man and the Avengers are Earth's Mightiest Heroes — but even they know fear. And when a powerful and ancient evil overtakes our world, each hero must make a sacrifice to save the Earth. But as the Serpent's mystical hammers transform friend and foe alike into unstoppable agents of destruction, as terror takes hold and the Serpent's power grows, as Odin prepares to burn the Earth to cinders to save his people — it's not these sacrifices the Avengers fear. It's the knowledge that no matter what price they pay, this battle may be unwinnable.

Heroes will fall, gods will die, and fear will rule the day — as the hammer falls!

Collecting *Fear Itself # 1-7*, written by MATT FRACTION (*Invincible Iron Man*) and illustrated by STUART IMMONEN (*New Avengers*) — plus *Fear Itself: Book of the Skull #1*, by ED BRUBAKER and SCOT EATON.



T+

MARVEL